JOHN BULL, DECEMBER 21, 1929
TWOPENCE

JOHN BULL

No. 1227.
Vol. XLVI.

OVER A MILLION SALE

"REALLY, IT'S NO SECRET

Just smoke a Kensitas and avoid that future shadow"

CHARMING women whose modern, slender figures win admiration have long known that it's quite easy to retain the slenderness of health and fashion. With a thought to grace and beauty, they ban the habit of eating between meals. They refuse to pay the penalty of ungainly flesh. Whenever they are tempted to eat between meals, they say: **"No thanks, I'll smoke a Kensitas instead."**

THE KENSITAS PRIVATE PROCESS, makes Kensitas the only cigarette to smoke when between meal bites tempt you. For it combines into one glorious flavour the deliciousness of the golden Virginia tobaccos. You'll delight in Kensitas — you'll find its mellow satisfaction instantly removes the desire to eat between meals. THEN YOU NEED NEVER FEAR THAT FUTURE SHADOW.

MANUFACTURED BY THE
KENSITAS
PRIVATE
PROCESS

10 For 6d – 20 For 1/-

FOR SMALL TRADERS, SHOPKEEPERS.

MAKE MORE MONEY.

Sell Tablecloths, Towels, Silk Stockings, Overalls, Men's Socks, Ties, etc. A 1,000 Bargains. The Oldest, Largest, Cheapest and Best Wholesale Firm. Write now for Catalogue B., Cochrane, Sons & Co., 2, Thomas St., Manchester.

DRAPERS.—Buy your supplies from the Largest Warehouse. Stocks of Hosiery, Remnants, Readymades, etc. Large Catalogue Free. —H. Clegg (Dept. B.), Turner St., Manchester.

CHEAPEST Wholesale House for Beginners for drapery, hosiery, boots, etc. Write for free cat. —H. Marks, 65, Houndsditch, London, E.C.3.

DRAPERY remnants for money-making. Wholesale lists free.—S. Lonsdale & Son, Dept. J.B., Textile Clearing House, Faulkner Street, Manchester.

52-PAGE Drapery Cat., full of Money-making Bargains, direct from Manufacturers, also A.B.C. Guide, free to shopkeepers & beginners. Your living assured. Example of our prices: Men's shirts, 18/11 doz. Thousands other bargains in store.—Wolfson's, Manfrs., 48, Thomas St., Manchester.

AGENTS WANTED.

EARN £2 to £5 weekly. Run a bed-clothing Club amongst friends. No outlay. Partics. free. —Carlisle Mills Co., Dept. 11, Birstall, Leeds.

EARN £3 weekly, plus Bonus.—Run Bed-clothing, Drapery and Fancy Clubs amongst Friends. No outlay. Illustrated catalogue free.—Grove Mills Co. (Dept. M.), Birstall, nr. Leeds.

1/- WEEKLY CLUB AGENTS. Start the NEW YEAR well by forming a M.M. Club for High-Class Clothing, Boots and Household Goods. NO OUTLAY. Very generous commission. First week's parcel on approval. Send now for 56-page Catalogue.—M.M.T.A., Ltd., 66, Greenmount, Plymouth Grove, MANCHESTER.

AGENTS wanted by actual Manufacturers to sell Ladies' Coats and Dresses on easy payments. Full trade profit; no outlay.—Write to Mr. Scarlett, Swan Costume Co., Bradford.

THE WINNER OF THE PIANO

offered by WALKER & HANNAM, LTD., Chocolate Club Specialists, Bradford, is MRS. F. W. WATSON, "BANSDALE," OTLEY, Yorks.—Amount of order, £132 5s. 9d.

EMPLOYMENT.

LOOK! Earn £5 per week selling Silk Stockings, Underwear, Jumpers Suits, etc., direct from manufacturers. No need for shop or Big Expenses; sell from Home. Large profits. Write at once for Catalogue & start now.—Direct Service Hosiery Co., Hinckley, Leicester.

AN EASY WAY OF MAKING MONEY.—Sell to your friends and others our Hosiery, Underwear, etc.; it shows the largest profit in the trade. Courtauld's Artificial Silk Stockings, Paget Heel, 12/- doz. pairs; our new 32-page all-illustrated catalogue is brimful of such bargains. We state clearly what to sell at and your profit on each Line. Single articles gladly supplied. Our large London Depot is open all day for direct purchasing and advising our patrons. Real Silk Shade Cards supplied free.—Send for all to-day catalogue and enjoy our large Free Gift.—Nickson's, Manufs., Broadway Chambers, London, W.6.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES, SERVICES.

PRINTING.—10,000 Handbills or Billheads at 3/3 per 1,000. Samples of printing for all trades, with list of 700 prices sent for 3d. postage.—Mead and Son, Room 60, Sandy, Beds.

CHEAP PRINTING.—1,000 Billheads fr. 3/6. Handbills fr. 7/6. Memos, Business Cards, etc. Samp. free.—Crateway Press, 8, Buxted, Sussex.

BARGAIN SALES.

WALLPAPERS direct from 2½d. per roll. Send for patterns post free.—West Riding Wallpaper Co., 52, Trinity Street, Leeds.

KNITTING wool Bundles, 8 oz. 2/-, 1½ lb. 5/6 for socks, etc. White, Navy, Grey Yarn 3/10 lb., post free. Pcts. of Wools, Serges, Tweeds, etc.—Egerton Bus'netts, W.B. W'house, Wellington, Som.

WALLPAPERS from mills from 2½d. roll. New Designs. Patterns post free. — Osborne Mills (Dept. 5), Rochdale Road, Manchester.

WOOLS, GREAT BARGAIN SALE. 1d., 1½d., 2½d. oz. Silky, 2½d. oz. Rug, 6½., 1/-, 1/6½d. Rug Guide, 600 spls., free.—"Scotia" Wools, 158, New Bridge St., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

DANCE Novelties, advt. balloons, hats, fans, masks, jokes, etc. List free.—Novelty Supply Stores (Dept. 10), 228, Mile End Rd., Ldn., E.1.

BALLOONS, Paper Hats, Novelties, etc., for Dances and Parties. 24-pp list No. J.B.1149, Dudleys, Ltd., 451, Holloway Rd., London, N.7.

SHEFFIELD-MADE "Pixie" Razor Blades, 1/- per dozen. Good terms to buying agents. —Dronfield Tool Co., Dronfield, Sheffield.

CHRISTMAS NOVELTIES, Balloons, Hats, Decorations, Jokes, etc. Large Catalogue free.—"Unedin," 70/72, Arundel Street, Portsmouth.

AMUSE YOUR FRIENDS! £1 (Novelty) Notes, good fun (Gents only), 12 1/3; sample 3d. Dummy packet Musical Chocolate, good joke. Sample, 6d. 12 packets, 5/-; 6 2/9. Agents wanted. Enclose stamp.—"CHEQUES," 212, KING STREET, HAMMERSMITH.

QUILTS.—Heavy, double-bed. Slightly soiled. Usually 12/6. To clear, 7/6.—Nayler's Stores, 22-26, Woolwich Road, London, S.E.10.

PRINTED NOTEPAPER.—Boxed, 50 sheets, Envelopes, White or Azure. Ideal New Year's Gift. Send 2/6 with address.—C. Westwood, 62, Crayford Way, Crayford, Kent.

9/11 POST FREE.—Ladies' Patent Bar Shoes, brown or black glace kid. State size and heels required.—(M) Haywood, 85, Westfield Lane, Mansfield, Notts.

CHILD'S 2-POSITION CHAIR (high chair and low play-table combined). 5/- secures immediate delivery, carriage paid, and 8 weekly payments of 5s. 6d. Wonderful bargain; money back if dissatisfied. Cash 22/9. Illustrated leaflet free.—J. Rushleigh and Co., 50-51, New Oxford Street, London.

HAND-COLOURED ENLARGEMENTS from small snaps, 5½ x 3½ in., 1/6; 8 x 6 in., 2/6. Parties. of larger sizes free.—Jones, Albert Works, Ilford.

SMALL ADS. WORTH WATCHING

Prepaid Rate: 9s. per line averaging six words, Minimum Charge 27s.

Advertisements must be received not later than Friday for the following Thursday's issue.

Address: The Advertisement Manager, "John Bull," 57-59 Long Acre, London, W.C.2

FREE.—GRAGE'S offer their GRAMOPHONE CATALOGUE and particulars of their "No Deposit" system for approved accounts on page 22. Cut out and post the free coupon in an unsealed envelope with a halfpenny stamp.

SEVEN Days' Free Trial of the New and Improved VITAPHONIC SOUNDBOX is offered in the advt. on page 31. If you desire improvement in tone from your gramophone, this offer is well worth consideration.

ANYTHING you want on deferred payments. Simply send the coupon in the JOHN BLANFORD advt. on page 28 for a copy of their illustrated catalogue. Their offer of a Raincoat for 1/- down should interest many readers. Be sure to mention Dept. J.B.N.

READERS' attention is drawn to the LONDON VALVE advt. on page 29, in which a free illustrated Folder, giving full particulars of the L.V. Washerless Tap (the Tap that will not leak) is offered. Send the free coupon NOW!

PATENT Leather Shoes are seasonable; take this splendid opportunity announced in our advertisement on next page.—The British and Overseas Development Association, 310-312, Regent Street, W.1.

GRAMOPHONES or Radiograms, make them for less than quarter price. We supply all parts at wholesale prices. Catalogue free.—Baltimores, 159, Peckham Rye, London, S.E.

The "Jay-Way"

MORE FURNITURE for MONEY MORE TIME in which TO PAY

XMAS BARGAINS at JAY'S, World's Largest Furnishers. Call and inspect our wonderful display. You will be amazed at the new and varied selection. JAY'S have built up the World's Largest Furnishing Business by satisfying their customers in every detail.

Note these Terms—the best obtainable.	
Worth	Monthly
£10	4/-
20	8/-
50	20/-
100	40/-
250	100/-
500	200/-

CHESTERFIELD SUITE IN REXINE, comprising CHESTERFIELD and TWO LARGE EASIES, LOOSE CUSHIONS IN RICH VELVET.

CASH PRICE **15** GNS. or on Credit **7/6** Monthly

HANDSOME DESIGN SOLID OAK SIDEBOARD, Perfect finish, superior fittings.

CASH PRICE **7** GNS. or on credit **4/-** monthly.

Ask for our travelling salesman to call at your home and submit expert estimates free. All goods are delivered free and privately.

JAY'S FURNISHING STORES

WORLD'S LARGEST CREDIT FURNISHERS

242-256, TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD, W.1.
KENTISH TOWN—346, KENTISH TOWN ROAD, N.W.5
96-97, LONDON ROAD, SOUTHWARK, S.E.1.
HAMMERSMITH—129, KING STREET, W.6.
STOKE NEWINGTON—86-90, HIGH STREET, N.16.
CRICKLEWOOD—140, BROADWAY, N.W.2.
HOLBORN—61, GRAY'S INN ROAD, W.C.1.
WHITECHAPEL—223-5, WHITECHAPEL ROAD, E.1.
WIMBLEDON—61, BROADWAY, S.W.19.
UPTON PARK—361, GREEN STREET, E.13.
STRATFORD—379-381, HIGH STREET, E.15.
262, HARROW ROAD, PADDINGTON, W.2.
KING'S CROSS—212, CALEDONIAN ROAD, N.1.
162, HOLLOWAY ROAD, N.7.
PALMER'S GREEN—35 & 37, GREEN LANES, N.13.
225, WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD, S.E.1.
BOW—165, BOW ROAD, E.3.
CHELSEA—303, FULHAM ROAD, S.W.10.
CLAPHAM—59, 61, 63, HIGH STREET, S.W.4.
PADDINGTON—219, SHIRLAND ROAD, W.9.
WATFORD—12 & 13, HIGH STREET.
CROYDON—8, LONDON ROAD.
THORNTON HEATH—80, HIGH STREET.
BRISTOL—77-79 & 78, RADCLIFFE STREET.
WOKING—11, THE BROADWAY.
COVENTRY—4, FLEET STREET.
WORTHING—16 & 17, ROWLANDS ROAD.
EXETER—104, FORE STREET.
SOUTHAMPTON—22, GOLD STREET.
CARDIFF—22 & 23, ST. MARY STREET.
NEWPORT (MON.)—76, HIGH STREET.
SWANSEA—256, OXFORD STREET.
SWANSEA—34, HIGH STREET.
PLYMOUTH—3 & 9, THE OCTAGON.
GLOUCESTER—80, NORTHGATE STREET.
NORWICH—31 & 31a, ST. STEPHEN'S STREET.
TAUNTON—89, EAST STREET.
SHREWSBURY—67, MARDOL.
BRIGHTON—127, QUEEN'S ROAD.
WORCESTER—33, BROAD STREET.
CARNARVON—CASTLE SQUARE.
BRISTOL—21, STOKES CROFT.
CHESTER—23, BRIDGE STREET.
READING—47, MINSTER STREET.

POST THIS COUPON IN OPEN ENVELOPE ½d. Stamp.

Please send POST FREE your BARGAIN CATALOGUE to

Name .....

Address .....

J.B. .....

READERS' attention is drawn to the PLATIGNUM "FOUNTPEN DESK SET offered on page 27.

7/6 NOVELS FREE.—Fond of reading? Then join the Postal Library Service and get the books you want. A postcard brings full particulars and details of special introductory offer.—Postal Library Service, Dept. G.B., 52, Ashington House, New King's Road, London, S.W.6.

READERS' attention is drawn to the "DECCA" RECORD advt. on page 25, in which a suggestion is made to send a self-autographed "DECCA" RECORD instead of the usual Christmas Card. All you need do is to write your greeting on the label. You can obtain free a complete List of the new Electrical recordings, and name of nearest agent, by writing to "DECCA," 1-3, Brixton Road, London, S.W.9, mentioning John Bull.

IF it's Pyjamas, see our advertisement on next page.—London Pyjama Co., 150, Oxford Street, W.1.

GARDEN GUNS.—.410 Bore (Folding Model). A very handy light gun for small game, roosts, rabbits, etc. Ideal for garden, scaring birds, protecting seeds. Suitable for Farmers. Price 30/-, carriage paid. Easy terms arranged. No permit required. List of other models on request.—James Buchanan and Co., 121, Bath Street, Glasgow, C.2.

A BARGAIN: Floor covering thicker than lino., waterproof, rot-proof and sanitary for brick, stone, concrete or wood floors. Lies flat without fastening, no nails or paste required. In rolls, 72 sq. feet, for 16/-; all 3 yds. wide. Send for samples from J. B. Andrews & Sons, 20, Carter Street, London, S.E.17.

FREEMANS

CASH OR CREDIT

CELEBRATED SPARE TIME AGENCY

BOOTS, Gent's and Ladies' Clothing, Suits, Coats, Costumes and Underwear, Carpets, Lino, Drapery, Gramophones, Bicycles, Jewellery, Watches, Clocks, China, Toys, Baby Carriages, etc.

Men in regular employment appointed as Agents.

Largest stock in the trade. Liberal supply of samples. Highest Commission Paid. *Illustrated Coloured Catalogue.*

NO OUTLAY, ALL PROFIT. *Enquiries for Agency Invited.*

LAVENDER HILL, LONDON.

DRESS.

BABY'S BETTER QUALITY LAYETTE 30/-, 75 guaranteed garments. (No tapes, bits of useless pieces.) Cosy, Warm and Excellent home-made Gowns, Flannels, large Napkins, Wool Coats, Shawls, Vests, etc. Accept verdict of all purchasers. 1,000 more testimonials. Purchase from a mother, 15 years' experience. Call or send 2/- for parcel on approv. (Cash or terms.) Mrs. J. Howard, 66, Dover Road, Portsmouth.

MUSICAL.

GRAMOPHONES, 22/6; motors, 8/6; accessories, 12 types Internal horns cheap. 64 page list, 3d. How to make Gramos.—Regentone, 120, Old Street, London, E.C.1.

VIOLINS, Drummers' Outfits, Saxophones, Clarinets, Trumpets, Gramophones, etc., from 5/- deposit, 2/6 weekly. Lists free.—Palmers, 136, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough.

GRAMOPHONES.—Latest Horns and parts. Cat. Free. Cash or terms. Build £12 model for £3. Instructions 3d.—J. Burt, 165, High St., S.E.8.

CONCERTINAS, Jazz, Gramos, Italian Accordians, Banjoins, Saxophones, Melodians, Mandolins.—Terms, Vickers, Royal Hill, Greenwich.

MARKETING BY POST.

TEA.—Buy Direct. Save middlemen's profit. Indian and Ceylon blended. Empire blend, 4 lb. 6/-, 10 lb. 12/-. Standard blend, 4 lb. 6/-, 10 lb. 12/-. No. 1 dust, 7 lb. 6/-, 10 lb. 7/-. Special dust, 7 lb. 6/-, 10 lb. 8/-. All carriage paid.—Foulter & Co., Dune Place, Bow, E.3.

TEA.—It pays to buy only from the Wholesale Blenders, and save middlemen's profits. No connection with any other firm. Indian and Ceylon blends, delicious flavour. 1/2, 1/4, 1/8, 2/- per lb. Carriage paid 6 lb. and upwards. Thousands of satisfied customers. Money returned if not delighted.—PORTWAY TEA CO., 72, Portway, London, E.15.

LIVESTOCK, POULTRY, ETC.

SPECIAL OFFER. — Talking Parrots with Cages from 30/-. Singing Canaries, 15/-. 3 months' trial.—List free.—Chapmans, 47, Tottenham Court Road, London.

MEDICAL, CURATIVE.

WORMS CURED.—Artico Brand Worm Tablets are a Specialist's Positive and Permanent cure. They cure most violent cases by calmly destroying the very cause of the worm's existence. No fasting, no dieting, no interference with daily habits. Send 1/6 for generous supply or 1½d. stamp for Free Pamphlet.—Ridyard Tablet Co., 34-36, Codnor, Derby.

DON'T WEAR A TRUSS! Use Brooks Rupture Appliance. New Discovery. Wonderful. No leather pads, no springs, durable, cheap. Binds and draws parts together quickly. Sent on Trial. Catalogue free.—Address, Brooks Appliance Co., Ltd., 468K, 80, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

ALWAYS keep handy a bottle of BOLS VERY OLD GENEVA (in the Stone Bottle) and take a glass once in a while when feeling absolutely "done up" and exhausted. To take daily a SMALL glass of Bols V.O. Geneva is wise, as it regulates the system for men and women.

HOW TO STOP SMOKING. Genuine remedy proved by testimonials.—Write, The Stanley Institute (J.B.), 31, Warwick Lane, E.C.4.

BLADDER Weakness, Kidney troubles, etc., cured by Parker's Fluid Remedy, 1/3, 3/-, Boots', etc., or Parker's Remedy, Ltd., Liverpool. 2pt.3d.

NERVOUSNESS, Blushing, Depression, Weak Nerves, Morbid Fears, etc. Sufferers should get my FREE book, "The Conquest of Fear," describing a genuine cure. Sent with £1,000 guarantee, privately, post-free.—H. J. Rivers (D.B.60), 46, Lamb's Conduit Street, W.C.1.

COLE'S SKIN SOAP DEALS DEATH TO ALL SKIN TROUBLES.—1/6 full size Tablet sent FREE to prove it. Cures worst forms of eruptions, Eczema, Acne, Dermatitis, Itch, Pimples, Blackheads. Send 4d. stamps for postage, and mention John Bull.—J. B. Cole, 24, Buckingham Street, London, W.C.2.

CATARRH.—Vapo Cresolene is a proved stanchy in coughs and nasal and bronchial catarrhs. Write for Free Booklet No. 86 to Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., London, E.C.3.

INDIGESTION.—You can test CICFA, the famous remedy, endorsed by thousands of testees, free if you post the coupon in the advt. on page 31, enclosing 1½d. in stamps, with your name and address. Send for your free sample NOW!

FREE TRIAL of POTTER'S ASTHMA CURE. Smoking Mixture and Cigarettes, together with booklet, "Are you Asthmatical," will be forwarded to readers mentioning John Bull, on receipt of 2d. in stamps.—Address, Potter and Clarke, Ltd., 80, Artillery Lane, London, E.1. Mention John Bull.

BALDNESS.—I cured myself and can cure you. Large Trial Outfit, 2d.—Douglas Drew, "KWIK," 79, Victoria Rd., Victoria St., S.E.15.

WANTED TO PURCHASE.

BEST prices paid for Jewellery, Diamonds, Platinum, Gold, Silver, Gems, Antiques, Dental Plates (old), Valuations, Valuable Property, etc. Nothing too large nor too small. Cash per return. —Bentley & Co., 10, Wandsbeck St., London, W.1.

ANY kind of gold, silver, jewellery, diamonds, old false teeth, platinum scrap, bought. Highest cash by return.—Bull's, Upperhead Row, Leeds.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A PAYING PROFESSION.—We teach you massage, Swedish Movements, and where you are qualified put you in touch with patients. Our system includes all joint manipulations, which are sometimes given other names. We teach thoroughly in your own home. Free particulars, 47, Sussex Institute, Bernard Road, Leatherhead.

FREE SAMPLES of CUTICURA Preparations —Soap, Ointment, Talcum Powder, etc.—can be obtained free on application to F. Newbery and Sons, Ltd., 27, Banner Street, London, E.C. 1. See advt. on page 16. Mention John Bull when replying.

FREE.—A free trial bottle of "COROSIX," the new ideal Hair Cream, will be sent to readers forwarding the coupon in the advt. on page 32. Attach 1d. in stamps to cover postage and packing. Send for your free bottle NOW!

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A nine book-at-a-time subscription costs only 3/6 and lasts a lifetime; exchanges cost a few pence only. Over 2,000 titles to select from.

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Colonial enqs. invited

FREE 7/6 Novels
GIVEN TO ALL READERS JOINING WITHIN A MONTH

JOHN BULL'S SHOP WINDOW

BUY BY POST AND SAVE MONEY
JOHN BULL'S Shop Window brings a Bargain Store to Your Door. These goods have been chosen for their outstanding quality and value. Study each offer carefully. Write your name and address clearly, send money and notes by registered post. Always mention JOHN BULL.

I guarantee your satisfaction

HOW YOU ARE SAFEGUARDED
Only reliable and fair-dealing firms are allowed to display their goods in JOHN BULL'S Shop Window. You can buy from them as safely as purchasing across a shop counter for every article is sold under a strict guarantee of absolute Satisfaction or Money Back in full.

FLOOR COVERING

AMAZING VALUE! 72 SQ. FT. FOR 15/- SAMPLES FREE
DAMP-PROOF & ROT PROOF.
THICKER than Lino. Specially suitable for damp stone or wood floors. Lies flat without fastening, no nails or paste required. 72 sq. feet for 15/-. Longer lengths pro rata. All rolls two yards wide. Many pretty patterns to choose from.
J. B. ANDREWS & SONS, 30, Carter St., Walworth Rd., London, S.E.17.
PAROLEUM

ONE WEEK ONLY—SURPLUS STOCK—
500 Complete BEDDING SETS 500

Cash or C.O.D.
1 pair Heavy White Bordered Blankets, whipped edges, double bed.
1 pair Heavy Twill Bolton Sheets, double bed.
1 pretty Alhambra Quilt double bed, lovely colours.
1 fine White Bolster Case.
2 fine White Pillow Cases.
1 Turkish Hand Towel.

2 FREE GIFTS A stunning Lady's Wrist Fag and a Lady's Opera Scent with every order.

All for **20/-** Carr. Paid.

Cash or C.O.D. Money refunded if not satisfactory.
CASEMENT MFG. CO. (Dept. J.B.4)
ALLUM STREET MILLS, MANCHESTER

This 3-Guinea Gramophone
For only 21/-
Carr. Paid. C.O.D. 1/- extra.

A wonderful portable machine, soundly constructed and fitted with all the latest improvements. Silent motor, nickel-plated tone arm, speed regulator and sound box. Plush covered nickel edge turn-table, and patent hinged lid to carry records. Lovely tone and plays any size record. All enclosed in well-made leather-finished carrying case. An ideal instrument for home or outdoors. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. Do not miss this great bargain. AN IDEAL XMAS GIFT.
Send at once to—

NATIONAL BENEFIT STORES, LTD., Dept. J.B., Pollard St., Ancoats, Manchester.
Post Early.

GRAMOPHONE DANCERS
The "Tango Two" Magnetic Dancers

Simply place them on your gramophone, when they will WALTZ, FOX-TROT or ONE STEP to the music.
REQUIRES NO FIXING AND FITS ANY MAKE OF GRAMOPHONE. Charmingly dressed & life-like, they create endless fun and amusement.
Complete satisfaction or money refunded.
Usual Price, 6/6
SPECIAL XMAS OFFER
HASTINGS PATENTS CO., (Dept. 97), 121 & 122, Wilton Road, LONDON, S.W.1
(Trade enquiries invited.)
1/11 Post 3d. Sent C.O.D. if preferred

BABY-CLOTHES

A BABY'S COMPLETE HOME-MADE LAYETTE **30/-** EVERYTHING READY FOR THE ARRIVAL.

Comprising 75 necessary garments: Beautiful Robes, Embroidered Day and Afternoon Gowns, Robe-slips, Longcloth or Flan. Nighties, All-Wool Knitted Matinee Coats, Wrapper Vests and Binders, Long Back Flannels (Barras or Beds), Shawl, Pilches, Swathes, Turkish Napkins, Bibs, etc. A mother's personal work and guaranteed genuine bargain. All purchasers delighted. Testimonials arriving daily. SEND 2/- for parcel on approval. (Cash bargain, or Terms arranged.)
Mrs. J. B. HOWARD, 66, Dover Road, PORTSMOUTH.

SENSATIONAL WIRELESS OFFER 6/- WEEK
5 VALVE

CHORALIAN Suitcase Portable —the Wizard of Wireless. British and Foreign radio at loud speaker strength. NO AERIAL. NO EARTH. NO TROUBLE. Simply open the lid and switch on. Can be carried and operated anywhere. Wonderful tonal purity and volume.
MAKERS' PRICE SAVES YOU POUNDS. Cash 14 Gns. or 6/- weekly. Carriage paid. Guaranteed 12 months. Bargain Lists Free. Write NOW.
CHORALIAN RADIO (Dept. J. B.), 37, TOTHILL STREET, S.W.1.

TRIM YOUR OWN HAIR
You think you can't — we guarantee you can!
GREAT HALF-PRICE OFFER!

For a short time only

Saves Time and Money
Trims as it Combs

Complete **1/-** Postage 3d

Simple Adjustable Blade.
A Child can use it. Lasts a Lifetime.

FREE to "JOHN BULL" Readers.

Keep your hair short and neat. With this simple, yet effective device, you can be your own hairdresser and save pounds and wasted hours in salons. Ideal for women who are bobbed or shingled. Makes removal of superfluous hair on neck a matter of simplicity. A boon to men for personal use and a real money-saver for the family man. Made of highest quality materials.
A Lady purchaser writes: "When my friends tell me I must spend a fortune at hairdressers, I show them the comb."
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Get one of these wonderful combs yourself. Send 1/3 now and you will receive it by return complete and ready for immediate use.
Those sending immediately will receive a Free Gift of an extra blade in addition to one supplied with comb — 4 cutting edges which will last for years.
Only from
J. COLE, 24, BUCKINGHAM STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2.

7/8 SECURES *followed by 17 monthly payments of 7/8*
Cash Price Carr. Paid U.K.
5 - 19 - 6
Oak Jacobean Pedestal 3 ft. high, complete with new AUTO-STOP, Collaro DOUBLE SPRING Motor (plays 3 records at one winding), RIPPLE soundbox, Fullotone all-metal Sound Chamber. Gives robust purity. *Write now for Free 19 page coloured catalogue*
FULLOTONE GRAMOPHONES (1929) LTD. (Dept. J.B.25), 73, Camden Road, N.W.1; also EAST HAM, 149, High St. N. CROYDON, 41, George Street. TOTTENHAM, 561, High Road. Also at Liverpool, Manchester, Bolton, Hull and Glasgow.
Model No. 24. "It stows itself."
FULLOTONE

SPECIAL OFFER FOR XMAS DELIVERY ONLY

This is a genuine line of ladies' patent leather shoes single bar, punched collar with caramel underlay semi-Louis heel. A really serviceable shoe smartly cut and fashioned by experts in their craft. Can also be supplied in Black Glace.
Send at once giving size and fitting. Price per pair This is not Surplus stock, but a genuine offer made by the— BRITISH AND OVER SEAS TRADE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (Dept. J.B.), Remo House, 310-312, Regent St., London, W.C.

6/9 POSTAGE 6D

WHIPCORD TROUSERS

To advertise our 20-page Catalogue of over 200 Government Bargains we are making a special offer to John Bull readers of a pair of guaranteed whipcord trousers for the advertising price of **5/11**
Postage 9d.
Over 40 in. waist 1s. extra. These are of smart cut, Dark Grey in colour, turned up bottoms and hip pocket, and as TOUGH AS IRON IN WEAR, AND WE GUARANTEE TO REPLACE SHOULD THEY FAIL. Remember, cash refunded if not honestly worth double. Send to-day, stating waist measurement, and you will receive them per return, together with our catalogue of working men's many bargains.
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If you see it in "John Bull," it is so

Mercy for John Citizen—No Income Tax Increase

To End Work-queue Miseries

Police Scandal Sequel

TO the pessimists and the worshippers of "the good old days" JOHN BULL sends a hearty greeting in the hope that they will take off their blinkers and see that this is a happier Christmas for the nation than any other that has gone.

Misery there still is, but it is infinitely less than in those "good old days."

• • •

We are slowly emerging from the slough of the war's aftermath. As a nation we are healthier, better fed and better clad. We think more; we are better read.

So, while we may, let us be merry, and then, after the feast, let the good fight go on.

Dare they breathe?

The so-called middle-classes will have nothing to fear from Mr. Snowden's Budget.

In raising any additional revenue that he may need he will aim at bigger game—those who inherit big estates.

He takes the view that the middle-classes are already bearing at least their fair burden.

Political levy

One of the first Bills that the Government will try to press through during the New Year is the Trades Disputes Bill.

• • •

This will not—as was at one time believed—repeal the embargo on a general strike, but will content itself with easing the restrictions on picketing so as to take the handcuffs off the trade unions, and will reintroduce the old form of political levy.

• • •

The Labour Party's financial reserves are very low.

There are plenty of rich "climbers" who would be prepared to subscribe generously to the Party war-chest if they thought they could get a peerage; but that kind of supporter is not wanted.

Bench to bench

The Labour Party will shortly move to place a larger number of working men on the magisterial bench.

The rural benches—which have been monopolised almost entirely by the squirearchy in the past—are not being forgotten, and the Agricultural Workers' Union has been conferring about it with some of the Labour Party's leaders.

The objectors

The most bitter opponents of the Coal Mines Bill are the small owners who own one or two pits.

• • •

They are protesting that they cannot curtail production under a central selling scheme without wrecking their business, although the big concerns may be able to do so.

One-pit owners are already combining to oppose the South Wales central selling scheme, and they will oppose the national scheme even more strongly.

Their protests seem to prove once again that the day of small units in the colliery industry is past.

Noah's ark

We are glad to see that the Parliamentary Labour Party has so quickly recognised the justice of our attack two weeks ago on the antiquated machinery of the House of Commons.

At a meeting of the Party it was unanimously resolved that the Government should be asked to consent to the appointment of a Select Committee of the House (we suggested a Commission) to find means of effecting the much-overdue reform.

Commander Kenworthy has also made a move by tabling a motion.

The cumbrous procedure of the House *must* be changed.

Dismal Jimmies

Sir Horace J. Wilson, Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Labour, says: "British trade is more flourishing to-day than ever in the pre-war period, and it is seldom realised that there is considerably less unemployment now than in 1914."

He takes a cheerful view

When the Government's work schemes are in progress—that is, within the next two months—there should, he states, be more than a million and a quarter men employed than before the war.

The present returns create, he believes, a wrong public psychology. We agree.

How quick the American authorities were to "tell the world" that they would not suffer for the Wall Street crash. They understand publicity.

A broken man

In the Clapham Common murder trial, for which Stinie Morrison was sentenced to death and reprieved in 1911, Police-Constable George Greaves made certain allegations against other officers concerned in the case.

Sir Edward Henry, the then Commissioner of Police, finally held that Greaves had acted in perfect good faith, but had made an honest mistake.

In spite of this, Greaves, though he bore an excellent record, was transferred to a division outside London in circumstances which ultimately forced him to resign, thereby sacrificing his pension.

• • •

He tried his luck abroad, and to-day, with bitter memories of his broken career, he is penniless in Los Angeles, lying sick in the county infirmary, branded as a "pauper."

Confidential

A very distinguished visitor recently arrived in London in the person of M. Ta Sui Wang, of Nanking, the Chinese Commissioner of Police.

His object is to study British police methods, and he and his staff have been greatly impressed with all they have so far seen.

This is only one of a number of confidential visits that have lately been paid by foreign police officials. Our force is not called "the finest in the world" without reason.

Soldier police chiefs

There is a good deal of feeling in the police force about the successive appointments of retired Army officers as Chief Constables.

Police officers feel—and their grievance has been taken up by M.P.s—that too much consideration is given to the "exceptional qualifications" of outside candidates.

• • •

The controversy has broken out afresh over the proposed appointment of Captain A. N. Popkess, Assistant Provost Marshal of the Aldershot Command, as Chief Constable of Nottingham.

The Home Secretary still has the appointment under consideration.

Passing it on

There will be a general increase in country 'bus and motor-coach fares shortly.

Many of the road transport concerns have been able to offer cut fares to the public at the expense of their drivers and conductors, who have had to work long hours for small pay.

The new Road Traffic Bill, which regulates the hours of motor-drivers, will put a stop to this, and the companies are already preparing to pass the extra cost of labour on to the public.

Dockland slums

Unless co-operation with the Ministry of Health is undertaken, the £12,000,000 earmarked for London dock-approaches improvements will not go very far.

The situation is the same at practically all the seaports: quick and efficient transport facilities are being hampered by the clusters of slum-dwellings which surround them.

A great outcry was raised when recent floods caused the dock water level to rise and swamp out the houses of the dockers, but beyond a lot of talk and a relief fund, nothing was done to prevent its recurring, probably with more serious results.

This slum and transport problem must be tackled fearlessly by the Government.

A deserved honour

The Prime Minister is now preparing the New Year's Honours List, and it is hoped that he will rise above Party considerations and recommend for the

"A great journalist"

Order of Merit Mr. C. P. Scott, the distinguished editor of the *Manchester Guardian*.

It is understood that Mr. Baldwin would have liked to honour Mr. Scott, as a great journalist, but was compelled to yield to the Tory objections to one who has always been a fearless Radical.

Ghouls of the road

Hospital authorities and police officers in London are growing very perturbed over the increasing number of cases in which people injured in street accidents and taken away in ambulances have reported that money and valuables have been stolen from them while they lay unconscious.

The circumstances in some instances are of such a suspicious nature that a very thorough investigation should be made at once.

Afraid

The official architects on the staff of the Office of Works are trying to persuade Mr. Lansbury to give them the exclusive right to design all new Government buildings.

• • •

They are particularly anxious to keep in their own hands the designing of the new Government buildings to be erected on Calton Hill, Edinburgh, as well as the proposed new Government offices in Whitehall.

Any such bureaucratic privilege will be strongly resented, especially in Scotland, where the magnificent Scottish War Memorial has awakened a new sense of pride in native architecture.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
to our Readers

In Christmas Week, JOHN BULL will be on sale on **FRIDAY**, December 27, instead of on Thursday, which is Boxing Day.

The leakage

Although German bounty-fed wheat continues to be dumped in Great Britain, the price of flour is still rising. It is now over 40s. per sack and the price of the quartern loaf has been advanced to 9d.

The British farmer is admittedly hardly making two ends meet, and, according to the Food Council, the cost of the loaf is not excessive at the present price of flour.

Who is it that is making the great profit?

Through the square

It relieves the tedium of barrack-life; but it's all wrong. We mean the use of horses of the Royal Horse Artillery and the Life Guards by young society women.

These bright young people, eager to improve their riding and jumping frequent the barracks, where they are "ostled" by smart soldier orderlies, and "put through the square" by a rough-riding non-com.

While this gymkhana continues, civilian riding-instructors and ostlers will seek the "dole."

No slaves?

Our representative saw her in a Liverpool doctor's waiting-room: poorly dressed, with a terrible abscess on the face. When she sat down she fainted. She is twenty.

Assistant and manageress in a sweet and tobacco shop, she dresses the window, cleans up and serves. She is on duty from 7 to 11 a.m. and from 1 to 9.30 p.m.—every weekday, and at least one Sunday in two.

She is serving a host of poor people all day long, takes over £40 a week, and is entrusted with £3 of change with which to begin the day.

She is paid one pound a week—for eighty hours.

From the sty

Captain Stallard, a Worcestershire farmer, wrote to the Ministry of Agriculture saying he suspected disease among his pigs. The Ministry sent down an official, who assured him that there was no swine-fever.

Captain Stallard persisted, and again the Ministry pooh-poohed his fears. Altogether it did so five times, though several of his pigs died.

Then Mr. Hills, veterinary surgeon, of Worcestershire, killed a sow, and found at once that there *was* swine-fever. As a result, Captain Stallard lost 130 pigs without receiving a penny compensation

The itching palm

Very courageously the Blackpool Corporation has held an enquiry into the alleged irregularities in its Highways Department, and has told the ratepayers everything.

The report of the special committee states that there have been offers of bribes and hob-nobbing between contractors and Corporation employees, and recommends that no contract should be entered into with a company in which a councillor has relatives or nominees, or in which he is a servant.

Blackpool ratepayers want this scandal settled and done with. So do those of other boroughs.

Caged

On September 21 Sir Wyndham Childs warned our readers against the touring trickster, Leonard Mitchell, alias A. J. Sharp, using an address in Boundary Road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W., who posed as a printer and stationer, and obtained cash deposits from small shopkeepers against orders never completed.

At the Surrey Assizes, Guildford, Mr. Justice Swift has now sent him to twelve months' imprisonment, with the warning that on a second charge of this sort he might be dealt with as an habitual criminal.

May the police deal as promptly with all the other folk of his kidney whom we pillory week by week!

The Pope's visit

Two people in a cathedral town have been asked to subscribe towards a fund on behalf of "Protestant demonstrations" in the event of the Pope visiting us next year.

"If You See It—" *continued*

We foresaw his visit

They have wisely kept their money, and, as good Protestants, have protested against any such ill-advised schemes.

As well try to relight the fires of Smithfield as to promote religious riots in the Britain of to-day.

JOHN BULL first predicted the healing of the breach between Italy and the Vatican and forecast the Pope's visit.

No plots here

The plots to return to the old régime in Russia are quite futile, but we do not want London to become a centre of the plotters.

Paris has politely indicated that their departure would be welcome, and we gather the Government has no intention of Britain being turned into a cave of foreign conspiracy.

Prairie presents

Our strenuous criticism of slipshod emigration methods seems to have had some effect overseas.

The Canadian authorities are to make satisfactory plans to deal with next year's influx of British harvesters.

Meanwhile, we congratulate the Canadian Boy Scouts on their energetic campaign to collect funds in the big Canadian cities to send Christmas parcels to the new settlers and their children wintered up in loneliness and hardship on the prairie.

Another pound

Mr. H. J. Halsey, of Newdigate, Surrey, tried for years to obtain an alternative disability pension at full rates.

But although he has only one leg, cannot move his left shoulder and can use only one finger of his right hand, the Ministry of Pensions persisted in assessing his earning capacity at £1 per week.

A few weeks ago our Pensions Department took up his case. As a result, Mr. Halsey has now been awarded a full alternative pension, which in his case means an extra £52 a year.

Grinding poverty

Mr. Porteous, city rate-collector in Edinburgh, is a good man, as well as a wise official.

A poor working family of six depended on the man's wages of £1 18s. a week. A ghastly business.

They wrote to Mr. Porteous asking to be allowed to pay by instalments. He consented, and that has just saved the family from destruction—so far.

But now, though his consideration continues, a doctor's bill of £2 12s. 6d. has to be met.

What a Christmas to face!

Rangoon scheme

Some months ago we criticised as highly speculative a scheme promoted by Mr. A. H. Malet to provide Rangoon with reconstituted milk.

We now learn that a company was formed to carry out this scheme in Rangoon which, but for some severe Burma failures, would have been fully subscribed.

We gladly give publicity to this fact and to the statement that we had, of course, no intention whatever in our article of making any imputations against Mr. Malet's integrity in the matter.

Kinema secrets

A gigantic kinema is shortly to be built in London. It will seat 6,500 people and is bigger by half than any existing picture-palace in the country. Its enormous screen will be 50 ft. long by 35 ft. high.

Another sensation in store for kinema-goers is a new type of "solid" picture. Millions have been spent in pursuit of it, but so far without much success.

The new principle is to photograph the scene from two slightly different points of view and project the two sets of pictures alternately.

Can now SOS

A month ago, in announcing the Air Ministry's plans for a non-stop flight from Cranwell to Cape Town, we regretted to notice that in order to save weight it had been decided not to carry wireless.

We are glad to see that this unfortunate decision has been reconsidered.

The dangers of this record flight over vast wildernesses are thus reduced to reasonable proportions.

Empire in the air

In April next year a complete survey of Rhodesia by air is to take place.

The contract has been given to a British firm which has already undertaken similar work. The survey is expected to open up many new, hitherto undeveloped districts.

If this proves successful, many other parts of the Empire may be opened up this way.

Cruel queues

We wish all M.P.s would support Mr. H. Graham-White, the Liberal Member for Birkenhead East, who wants Parliament to stop the degrading system of unemployed men waiting for hours in queues outside factories and shipyards.

We hope M.P.s will support him

Compulsory notification of all vacancies to the employment exchanges would avoid this. At present only eighteen out of every hundred industrial vacancies are so notified.

Mr. Graham-White has persuaded the Government to insert a clause in the new Unemployment Insurance Bill which will provide for voluntary notification of all vacancies in certain trades.

The men should be able to wait in shelter at the exchange, not in public.

Bold Registrar

It was a brave thing of the Registrar in the Bournemouth Bankruptcy Court to attack local public authorities for failing to assure themselves of the stability of a contractor before he was given the contract.

As he said, they are playing fast and loose with public money, and they are entirely to blame if they get let in.

Unfortunately the public suffer.

Trick fails

A reader in Wei-hai-wei, North China, writes commending us for the stand we took with reference to the Mui Tsai slavery in Hong-Kong.

The slave-owners are wailing because since the amendment of the ordinance the old trick of asserting that a girl-slave is an adopted daughter will no longer work.

Girls who complain to the police are being sent to an institution until they are claimed by some responsible person.

In spite of what the authorities say, we should like to be assured that most of the girls only stay there a few months, and that no girls stay there indefinitely.

Quality

French shipbuilders are now urging their Government to provide large subsidies to French shipyards, to enable them to compete with British concerns.

Only recently a large order for six new ships for the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, the famous French liner company, came to a British firm, Messrs. Harland and Wolff, instead of staying in France.

In this case, however, the deciding factor was not price, but quality, and no Government subsidy will get over that. British shipbuilding is still supreme.

Let them come

We understand that strong representations are being made to the Government to remove the legal ban which prevents municipalities subscribing to the funds of the Come-to-Britain Movement.

It is claimed that the ban has seriously restricted the work of this organisation, which, after six months of life, can only boast a membership of 242 and an income of some £14,000.

These figures must be very discouraging to those who have worked so strenuously to capture for British hotel proprietors some of the foreign tourists' millions.

Could he know?

Maud Mary Ward was very properly sentenced at Grantham Court the other day for receiving stolen property.

But we fail to see the justice in the six strokes of the rod awarded to her little eight-year-old son, who is alleged to have committed the actual theft.

Who is to blame when a child of that age commits a crime to which his own mother is an accessory? Surely not the child?

Night-club blue-bottles

The reply given by Mr. Alfred Short, Under-Secretary of the Home Office, to a question regarding the employment of pensioned police officers as doorkeepers at illegal night-clubs was satisfactory up to a point.

He said the withdrawal of their pensions had been considered, but as their employment had ceased, no action had been taken beyond administering a caution.

It is scandalous that retired policemen should ever have been permitted to engage themselves to assist law-breakers. They should be required to report to the Home Office the nature of their employment.

At length

We are glad to know that the Foreign Secretary has acted on our recent suggestion that he should make a personal intervention with the Portuguese Government to secure justice for Mr. A. J. Brewer.

Mr. Brewer was kept in prison for nine months in Portuguese West Africa on a trumped-up charge of stealing £1, and was afterwards fined and sentenced to a further 300 days.

In January of this year the British Ambassador at Lisbon made an official protest to the Portuguese Government; but without avail.

There is now some prospect of Mr. Brewer's case receiving immediate consideration in Lisbon.

Blomley's bloomer

Alderman Blomley is one of the oldest members of the Rochdale Council, and length of service should have given him a wiser tongue.

Very rightly Rochdale schoolteachers resent his statement that they should not have longer paid holidays than any other Corporation employees.

A silly saying. School holidays are not made for teachers, but for children.

Besides, teachers are none too well treated in other respects.

WAR *in the* CHURCHES

A Good Word for the Sword
by The BISHOP of LONDON

"When it came to the point, we saved the liberty of the world by the sword"

CHRISTMAS, 1929, comes with a greater prospect of peace in the world and peace in the Church than we have had for a long time. The most significant thing of the past year was the signing of the Kellogg Pact.

It is quite clear that if all the nations live up to what they have promised in that Pact, the vexed question of disarmament becomes much easier of solution, and we must all pray earnestly that the coming conference of the five Great Powers will add greatly to the peace of the world.

With regard to the Church, the cessation of the controversy over the Prayer-book is an important matter.

There will always be differences of opinion in the Church of England, but there is no reason why Anglo-Catholics, Evangelicals and, what I call, Orthodox Modernists should not live together in peace.

Great mistake

LET me explain what I mean by Orthodox Modernists. They are represented by those who have brought out that excellent new commentary on the Bible, edited by Bishop Gore and Canon Goudge.

It is a great mistake to assume that if you want to be orthodox you must shut your mind to new light upon the Scriptures. On the contrary, if you believe in Jesus Christ as the Truth you welcome light from every quarter.

The record of the rocks, if it is a true record, is as much God's truth as the truths taught in the Bible, though not, of course, of the same supreme importance.

We used to hear a great deal in Victoria Park about the opposition that existed between science and religion, and you hear about it to-day. It was the same thing in America.

After one of my lectures at the University of Michigan, a young man came to me and said: "It is no use pretending that you can reconcile science and religion, because you cannot."

But if Jesus Christ was the Truth, there is no contradiction whatever between science and religion, because *Truth cannot contradict itself.*

The Bible was never meant to teach us science, or astronomy, or history; it was meant to teach us goodness.

We are finding out to-day the truth about the Bible. The Bible has made no mistakes; it is we who have made mistakes about the Bible.

You are on trial

AND, again, we need not be nervous concerning the Faith. A story is told of a man who went into one of the famous picture-galleries of Florence. He looked round very casually at the great masterpieces, and he said, "I do not think much of them."

The custodian, who overheard this remark, replied: "It is not the pictures, sir, which are on their trial, but it is the spectators who are on their trial here."

It was once thought that the Acts of the Apostles was a second-century document; but Professor Ramsay, the archæologist, who went to Asia Minor, came back and told the world that the Acts of the Apostles was the best authority on the history of the Roman Empire in the first century ever written.

The Truth can take care of itself.

It was pointed out at the dinner of the Royal Society, which I attended the other night, how much more closely representatives of science and representatives of the Church were drawing together.

The old controversies between science and religion, so vocal in the days of Huxley, are dying away; and so long as neither party deprecates the views held by the other there is no reason why the present peace between them should not deepen.

For myself, I always think that far too much objection is taken by certain people against the modern criticism of the Bible. Personally, I welcome it. It has enormously helped my faith.

I used to have to answer many questions in East London in the open air on Sunday afternoons, and there were more questions asked me about the various Books of the Old Testament than about any other part of the Bible.

It is not too much to say that modern criticism has swept away nearly all those difficulties which once existed in the minds of so many people.

There were difficulties about the numbers in the Old Testament; the record, for instance, of many thousands being killed in a place where there could only have been a few hundred people living.

We know now that the error arose through a mistaken use of the dots that were used to represent so many thousands. We can understand how, in the course of the ages, it was easy enough to alter a dot here and there in the old manuscripts.

Two Isaiahs

THEREFORE, it was not the Bible itself which made that mistake. The Bible itself has never made the claims that other people have made for it.

Or, again, take the prophecy of Isaiah. The last half of Isaiah was written a hundred years after the first, so there must have been two Isaiahs.

The mistake arose, probably, through manuscripts being placed together in a box, and when they were removed people would imagine the two manuscripts were written by the same man.

Modern criticism has shown us the dates of some of the Books, and those which we thought to be very old are, in reality, comparatively modern.

All these revelations have shed a great light upon the Bible, and we ought to be very grateful to those scholars who have helped us in this way.

It is absurd to think that these investigations have in any way interfered with the inspiration of the Word of God. Mistakes *about* the Word of God have been corrected; but the Word of God is exactly the same as it was.

I do not think anyone will deny that the New Testament stands to-day on a far firmer footing than it did fifty years ago.

At the beginning of this article I touched upon the question of world peace, and I think we must remember that such a thing as peace among the nations may be a thing that is only possible to work out very slowly.

I am a great believer in evolution in nature. It is a great mistake to suppose that the slow evolution through nature is against the Book of Genesis, or is against the revelation of God contained in His Word.

It is really something much more wonderful for God to have made something which would ultimately have evolved itself into the world than to have made the world straight off. But the thought of evolution does not do away with the necessity of God.

So in regard to this question of peace among the nations.

It may only have been possible to arrive at what we are all longing for by a slow evolution of human character.

I have often been asked, Why did all the Bishops feel it was right in 1914 that Britain should go to war?

I always answer that the sword has freed nations again and again; and when it came to the point, we saved the liberty of the world by the sword.

We were perfectly right in saying that the invasion of little Belgium was not to be allowed, and I believe that those who died to defend Belgium against the attacks of a great enemy died in a righteous cause.

But I have no doubt whatever that, speaking generally, war is against the will of God, and that is why I welcome the signing of the Kellogg Pact and the hope it holds out for permanent peace among the nations.

Whether, therefore, we look to the world at large or to the parties within the Church or to the relations between science and religion, Christmas comes with bright prospects of peace all round.

But not the Pope!

READERS of JOHN BULL may possibly wonder that I say nothing for the moment about the Roman Catholic Church, but that is merely because, while the Roman Catholics maintain their present attitude, there is nothing to be said.

We in the Church of England have no sort of intention of acknowledging what we consider the present unauthorised claims of the Pope; but, of course, we must always pray that some day these claims will be laid aside and that Christendom will be united in peace and amity as one Church.

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS

The EMPIRE'S Santa Claus

Mercy for a P.O. Man—He Scorned Money—

The Lucky Laird

Rt. Hon. ARTHUR GREENWOOD,
Minister of Health

DEAR SIR,—Your announcement that it is in general undesirable to make the playing of games in public parks on Sundays a criminal offence is welcome and timely.

It is class legislation of the most offensive kind.

I trust your declarations will have the desired effect on many local bigwigs and mug-wumps who "compound for sins they are inclined to by damning those they have no mind to."

JOHN BULL.

Sir FRANCIS FLOUD, K.C.B.,
Chairman, Customs and Excise Board

DEAR SIR,—You are right in saying that the work of Customs preventive officers, whose duty is to detect smuggling, is unsuitable for women, though there must be some women-searchers.

Apparently, you also realise how grossly the preventive service is understaffed. Smuggling goes on merrily all round our coasts, and the thin line of coastguards cannot check it.

The cost of an adequate service would be covered over and over again by the saving to the revenue.

JOHN BULL.

Mr. H. B. LEES-SMITH,
Postmaster-General

DEAR SIR,—I trust that since the Recorder had mercy on Edward Percy John Lodge, assistant-superintendent of Battersea Post Office, you will have mercy too.

Lodge has borne an exemplary character in the service for forty-four years.

It was a first offence, and the medical evidence was that he had acted under the influence of the first stages of a dread disease: general paralysis of the insane.

Now, sir, he would have retired next year with a pension of £237, and a lump sum of £587. This he has *earned*. Will you not say that morally it is his?

JOHN BULL.

Signor MUSSOLINI,
Rome

DEAR SIR,—All Englishmen were as glad as you were when the Italian ship *Leonardo da Vinci*, with your art treasures, came to anchorage off Gravesend.

It is also very gratifying to think that an Englishwoman, Lady Chamberlain, should have persuaded you to make the venture.

We take it as a happy omen that you, for all your war-talk, have sent us, not a threatening messenger bristling with guns, but this peaceful argosy of pictures.

It is a good gesture. England will have to think of a fit reply.

JOHN BULL.

Mr. F. MOODY,
Chairman, Warminster Magistrates

DEAR SIR,—You recently had to listen to a very sad case in which a fourteen-year-old errand-boy pleaded guilty to stealing 2s. 2d.

For the lad it was said that he was the son of respectable parents; that his employers were not only willing to keep him under their strict observation, but also hoped to obtain a free scholarship for him.

With many kindly people interested in the child's welfare, it is noisome to think that it should have been necessary to set a trap for the young offender, marked coins being prepared and temptation being deliberately left in his way.

You were right in giving the boy some kindly advice and binding him over; but I should have applauded you still more had you officially deplored the method adopted to teach him his lesson.

JOHN BULL.

Mr. G. GRANTHAM,
Clerk, Derby Board of Guardians

DEAR SIR,—So valuable was your assistance in connection with the construction of the new local hospital that the Hospital Committee wished to make you a substantial monetary grant; but you declined it, simply saying that you did not favour gratuities.

I like your spirit, and wish there were more of your kind.

JOHN BULL.

Sir CHARTRES BIRON
Chief Metropolitan Magistrate

SIR,—It would be valuable to have your opinion from the Bench at Bow Street regarding the evidence invariably given by police officers as to what is said and not said by prisoners at the moment of their arrest.

In the last few days four police witnesses in London courts stated: "Prisoner said nothing," "He refused to make any reply," "Prisoner kept silent," and "Prisoner did not speak."

Evidence by implication like this should not be admitted, and those giving it should be judicially reprimanded.

If you made it a rule in your court that police officers should use a stereotyped formula or not mention the fact at all when an accused person finds discretion in silence, your fellow-magistrates would, I am sure, copy your example generally.

JOHN BULL.

Mr. WALTER H. FOSTER,
President Law Society

SIR,—It will be your duty soon to make an annual address which will be heard or read by every solicitor in the land.

Give warning, then, I advise you, to the growing number of members of your profession who, when issuing writs or summonses for alleged debt, deliberately give the defendant's address as that of his or her employer's business.

It amounts to undue pressure on people to pay, because, if they contested the claims and judgment went against them, their employers' addresses would be published. Dismissal would most likely follow.

Better that a warning should come from you now than, eventually, from the Lord Chief Justice.

JOHN BULL.

The CHAIRMAN,
Boxing Board of Control

DEAR SIR,—Whatever may have appeared on the surface, all was not well in one respect at the Hood *v.* Harvey fight.

Many seats were in the hands of speculators for weeks past. Profits of several hundreds per cent. were made.

Unfortunately, for the pleasure of outbidding ordinary people, there is a section of the public which supports the ticket shark. This is something the Control Board might usefully tackle.

JOHN BULL.

Capt. HUGH PATRICK LUMSDEN,
Crova House, Kildrummy

SIR,—In fining you £20 for firing a rifle at a number of gamekeepers and gillies from a neighbouring estate, Sheriff Laing said: "I confess to some amazement that a man in your position should have been guilty of so serious an offence."

Your excuse that you thought they were poachers is absurd. It should have been plain to you that they weren't. And even if they were, you had no right whatever to fire at them.

The scandal is that it only costs you £20 to take the law so flagrantly into your own hands.

JOHN BULL.

H.R.H. The PRINCE OF WALES,
St. James' Palace London

YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,—It is a joy to know that you will at Christmas take over from your royal father the presentation of the seasonable gifts to the tenants on the Sandringham estate.

It is a joy because I perceive that in this, as in other matters, you are able increasingly to relieve His Majesty of many of his more exacting duties and to assist him in his enjoyments.

This homely Christmas gesture, I know, symbolises His Majesty's love for all his subjects, old and young, in all parts of the Empire.

The public know you as our Ambassador to the Dominions, and now they see you as the Santa Claus of the Empire.

You will be sad to think there are very many stockings that will not be filled, and I realise that had you the means to compass it none would be empty.

No one knows better than Your Royal Highness the miseries that lie in unemployment, for you have sought and seen for yourself.

May I ask to you to give, this Christmas, a vitalising push to the schemes now in hand—and to the schemers?

A word from you to the wrangling politicians would bring them together in a great national effort.

JOHN BULL.

Not from 2 LO—*The Rev. W. E. Woodhams Denham's Sermon*—

THE DEVIL
Makes a Fourth

"CHRISTMAS comes but once a year,
And is supposed to bring good cheer,"
Said I to me, so forthwith wrote
To my parishioners a note.

"My dear Parishioners"—'twas thus
I started; then went on to cuss
Those poor misguided sinners who
At bridge-drives their spondulics blew.

There're folk I know who play the game,
Or say they do, for love of same;
But soon the gambling spirit rears
Its head, and virtue disappears.

And verily to you I say,
With pennies lost at bridge the way
To hell is paved. The devil grins
Each time somebody threepence wins.

So, earnestly do I beseech
You: Put temptation out of reach.
Your Christmas pure will be and gay
If halma you're content to play.

Yes, my dear brethren, I cannot too strongly condemn what, in my letter, I called "this soul-destroying practice."

Some people say they play bridge just to be sociable. Well, they will have ample opportunities for being sociable in the hereafter, for they will find the nethermost circle of Gehenna full of their bridge-playing friends.

This evil has gained such a hold upon people who were once Christians, like me, that there are men—good husbands and fathers—so tainted with the vice that if their vicar called to enquire after their spiritual welfare when spades were trumps and they held the ace, king, queen and knave, they would force an innocent housemaid to perjure herself by announcing: "The master isn't at home."

This shows to what depths of wickedness human nature can descend. Yet how can a hand of aces prevail against a heart full of evil?

As I pointed out in my Christmas letter, bitterness, covetousness, envy, jealousy and divided families follow in the train of bridge. I intend to do all in my power to save my parish of Chorley Wood becoming another Monte Carlo, which it already closely resembles.

Leave bridge and its like to the devil.
And poker for bad men in Hades.
While whist, though it's played
In an atmosphere staid,
Is a slithering slope for old ladies

No more talk of grand slams and of rubbers,
The lure of the card-table spurn;
Of your cards every pack
Let us burn, or, alack,
You one day will assuredly burn.

STRAIGHT *from the Shoulder*

SIR HENRY THORNTON: "The ideal situation is that which permits a board of directors to remain silent."

So that the protesting shareholder can hear himself speak?

* * *

PROFESSOR R. G. WHITE: "Consumers now demand small joints."

But they still have other ideas about the Christmas turkey.

* * *

MISS HELEN SCHILIZZI: "It's harder to live for your country than to die for it."

Only in the first case you can alter your mind.

* * *

VISCOUNT CECIL: "The really remarkable thing about Bolshevik propaganda is its utter futility."

Then why such a fuss about it?

* * *

MR. PHILIP SNOWDEN: "It is very difficult to translate moral rights into terms of cash."

Or mining royalties into moral rights.

Astounding Political Newspaper FRAUD

Beware of

"Pinkham . . . a colossal cheat and impostor"

"Sir Patrick Gower saved them from a sorry fate"

Lt.-Col. the Hon. Cuthbert James, M.P. for Bromley, in whose constituency Pinkham published one of his papers

A MAN who takes rank among the most dangerous impostors known to Scotland Yard has just disappeared, after using the Conservative Party for the execution of his biggest swindle.

Fortunately, so far as the investigation has gone, the scoundrel's gains do not seem to have far exceeded £10,000.

This is a small loss compared with what would have been involved if a final coup which he had planned had not been scotched in the nick of time.

Fifteen months ago, William Frederick Hector Pinkham emerged from a retreat in the little town of Huntingdon, where he had sought for a time to hide the shameful record of his unscrupulous rogueries.

Publicity giant

Equipped with cast-iron testimonials to his integrity from people he had bluffed in his place of hiding, he directed his steps back to London, where he had engineered most of his previous fraudulent exploits.

In his head were schemes by which he would become the Napoleon of political journalism, and, incidentally, enrich himself by a series of financial tricks at the expense of eminent members of the Conservative Party.

The preliminary part of his plan was the formation of a publicity organisation, which he called the London and Counties Advertising Service.

He registered it as a £3,000 company, with offices in Old Broad Street, E.C., and put himself in funds by the simple expedient of selling the new business to himself for £1,500 obtained from the money subscribed by those he induced to join him.

It was necessary for the success of his later and larger project that Pinkham should conduct the advertising enterprise with apparent honesty.

Then, last March, he embarked on his main adventure.

It was so designed that before this Christmas he would be the owner of a chain of more than a hundred newspapers, all operating in the cause of Conservatism and sponsored and backed by the leaders of the Party.

Using the Old Broad Street address, Pinkham founded a company called Conservative Newspapers, Ltd., selling it also to himself for £1,000 from the money put up by his victims.

The Central Office of the Conservative Party offered no objection to the use of the title.

The Party chiefs were, of course, totally unaware that they were entertaining a swindler, and propaganda material was cordially served out to him to fill the columns of the journals he had set out to publish.

By various means, Pinkham was able actually to launch nine Conservative newspapers in different constituencies.

Tricking M.P.s

They have appeared regularly for four or five months in places as far separated as North and South Tottenham, Enfield, Willesden, Bromley (Kent), Leek (Staffs), Nottingham, Newcastle, and Stoke Newington.

Many tens of thousands of copies of each issue were distributed to electors.

Pinkham was satisfied with only the best available matter for his publications.

With consummate audacity, he deceived leading M.P.s and the principal organisers and agents of the Conservative Party into contributing articles, features and news to the journals.

Thus local Conservative associations and councils were easy prey to him when he approached them for support.

All this activity was only a cover for Pinkham's financial jugglery.

He had provided that the advertising and newspaper companies should pay him a yearly salary of £2,000; but that was little more than pocket-money to him.

One by one he singled out prominent Conservatives, and, according to his estimate of their means, sought loans from them of from £50 to £1,000 each for the development, ostensibly, of the Party propaganda newspapers.

For these transactions he brought into play his London and Counties Advertising Service, the operations of which had been kept above suspicion.

He doled out post-dated cheques and bills drawn on the bankers of one or other of the companies, and freely gave the names of the solicitors and accountants of the publicity concern as references when negotiating the loans.

Money came to him plentifully and easily by these methods, and he diverted it solely to his private banking account. All of it has now gone with him.

But, unknown to him, the Party administrators were beginning to gather information regarding his activities, and suspicion of his real intentions had kindled at Palace Chambers, Westminster.

All ready

Pinkham's plans for his big haul were, however, well advanced.

He had completed arrangements by which he was to refloat Conservative Newspapers, Ltd., for £50,000, and had gone far towards composing a board of directors, all foremost politicians whom he had duped or was on the way to duping.

With practically one stroke he made his victims believe he was to bring into existence another hundred or so newspapers, dedicated to and supported by official Conservatism.

Every city and town of any size throughout Great Britain was to be provided with a Conservative organ by Mr. Pinkham.

He timed his attempt to raise the £50,000 to coincide with the recent annual conference of the Conservative Party.

Just in time

A clarion call was to be issued to Conservatism through special conference numbers of the existing journals, to which Pinkham had arranged that the leaders and directors of the Party policy should contribute material that would innocently serve his ulterior purpose.

Then Sir Patrick Gower intervened. He was formerly private secretary to successive Prime Ministers and is now chief publicity officer of the Conservative Party.

Just in time he had discovered that Pinkham was a colossal cheat and impostor.

Sir Patrick repudiated gross misrepresentations which Pinkham had made in a form of prospectus he had circulated privately among Conservatives whom he was about to fleece, and the Conservative Newspapers, Ltd., bubble burst.

Pinkham had also been advertising for investors who, in exchange for subscribing £5,000 each, were to receive posts in his wonderful group of newspapers at salaries well in excess of £1,000 yearly.

Sir Patrick Gower also saved them and their money from a sorry fate.

No time was lost by Pinkham in making a get-away when he found he was unmasked.

He collected in cash all the moneys he had fraudulently obtained, and placed to his own credit and liquidated the banking accounts of the companies over which he had complete control.

A splendid establishment which Pinkham maintained at Hoddesdon, in Hertfordshire, was closed down; his domestic staff, governess, children's nurse and gardener were dismissed, and he disappeared with two handsome motor-cars which he had also acquired.

Hard hit

Pinkham was first sentenced at the Essex Assizes for forgery, and not long ago he served three years' penal servitude for obtaining money and goods by worthless cheques.

Hard hit though some of its prominent members have been by Pinkham, the Conservative Party as a whole can congratulate itself on a comparatively cheap and early escape from the depredations of an individual whom Mr. Justice Shearman once fitly described as a scheming rascal against whom the public required protection.

The SIGNOR Goes into Hiding

SOME time ago an Italian named Signor Mario Antonio Conti arrived in this country and established himself in an office at Avenue Chambers, Southampton Row, London, W.C., as a "merchant and shipper."

Signor Conti knew better than to run foul of the British authorities in the early stages of his "business" career, and for a time he concentrated upon clients cutside Britain.

One was a firm in Brussels, which, impressed by Signor Conti's nice noteheading and the fact that he boasted contracts with H.M. Office of Works, supplied a valuable consignment of brass bedsteads on credit terms.

Conti lost no time in disposing of the whole consignment for cash.

* * *

The Belgian firm submitted its account many, many times without avail, and finally placed the matter in the hands of its solicitors.

The Signor temporised; but the solicitors enquired, and some disquieting discoveries were made.

Another Continental firm had secured a judgment against him for £500 in the English courts for goods supplied, but the Signor had simply defied the receiving order which followed by staying away from the Bankruptcy Court.

Scores of foreign firms have been defrauded in this fashion, having supplied Conti with goods aggregating thousands of pounds in value, for which he has made no attempt to pay.

* * *

Amongst them is a brush manufacturer, who shipped several consignments of brushes to Conti and is now nearly £600 out of pocket, though the goods were all sold by the Italian for cash.

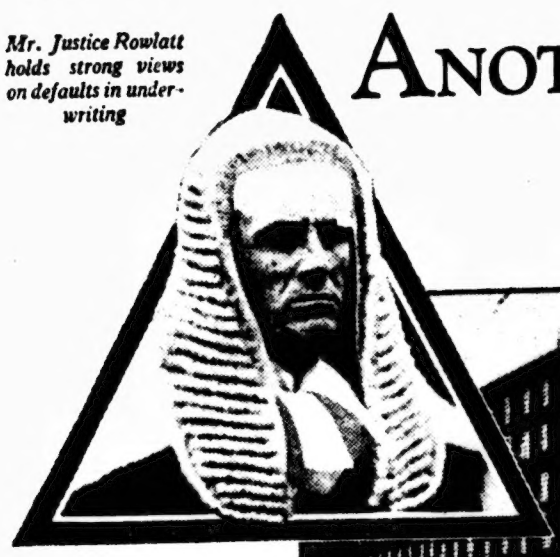
Conti has disappeared from his office and is maintaining a discreet silence.

We have a shrewd suspicion, however, that he is hiding in a house at Golders Green.

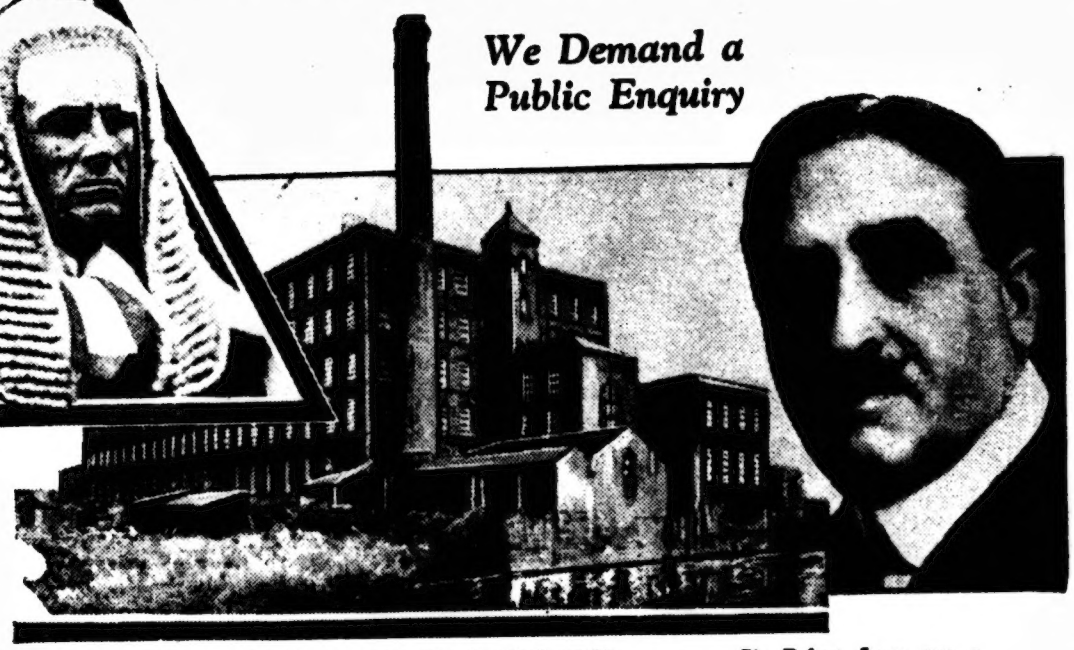
As certain British firms have been duped in addition to his vast Continental hauls, perhaps Scotland Yard will put its officers on the Signor's track.

ANOTHER BIG FLOTATION Scandal

We Demand a Public Enquiry



Mr. Justice Rowlatt holds strong views on defaults in underwriting



Brighouse Mills, Yorkshire, which never really started business for the new company

Sir Robert Lynn was a director of the Yorkshire Artificial Silk Company

THE Board of Trade has a big job waiting for it—the rescue of countless anxious shareholders in numerous companies that were floated during the "boom" period of the past two years.

The ensuing revelations show that it is very urgently necessary to start an enquiry at once into the affairs of a disastrous concern called the Rayon and General Development Corporation, Ltd., of Threadneedle Street, London, E.C.

This company has not only disappointed its own investors, but has also been concerned in several other crashes in circumstances which are truly remarkable.

Promoted in March, 1928, with a capital of £30,000, mainly with the object of "underwriting financial issues," its leading light is a Mr. George Wilson Turner, of "Tollington," Oxted, Surrey.

By virtue of the unique experience he claims in underwriting matters, Mr. Turner was appointed managing director for five years, with a salary of £30 a week and expenses.

The formation of the Corporation, it should be added, was very largely his own idea.

A significant thing is that when Mr. Wilson Turner assumed his new duties he was armed with a princely contract that he had acquired personally for the underwriting of a company called the Yorkshire Artificial Silk Company, Ltd.

The Corporation which he directed was apparently so delighted with this contract that it agreed to pay Mr. Wilson Turner £2,500 in shares in the Yorkshire company.

Secret process

In these circumstances, let us see how the contract was carried out.

The Yorkshire Artificial Silk Company, Ltd., was duly floated by the Rayon Corporation, with Sir Robert Lynn (then a Member of Parliament) as chairman.

Its principal object was to purchase some existing mills at Brighouse, Yorkshire, and to acquire a secret process for manufacturing silk from a Dr. Wilhelm Ernst Bader, Ph.D., of Maerisch Chrostau, Czecho-Slovakia.

The name of Mr. Wilson Turner figured conspicuously in the prospectus of the Yorkshire Artificial Silk Company, Ltd., which sought to raise £325,000.

He was personally to receive £4,000 for "services rendered," while his Rayon and General Development Corporation, Ltd., was the company which undertook, for appropriate fees, to underwrite most of the shares.

On the strength of estimated profits of £120,000 a year, the investing public put up nearly £175,000. A year passed, but no profits were forthcoming.

It then became practically impossible to obtain any satisfactory information, and a meeting was recently called by a firm of solicitors on behalf of certain shareholders.

Some extraordinary revelations were thus made, principal among them being the disclosure that most of the capital had been swallowed up, and that the Rayon and General Development Corporation had failed to honour the underwriting agreements entered into on its behalf by Mr. G. Wilson Turner.

A big crash

The Yorkshire Artificial Silk Company, Ltd., is consequently now in compulsory liquidation, with liabilities of a quarter of a million pounds.

Another venture, allied to the same group, whose affairs should also claim the attention of the Board of Trade, is called Linen and Art Silk, Ltd., which was formed shortly after the previous company with a capital of £350,000.

Although eighteen months have since passed, the shareholders have so far had no return for their money.

Far from paying dividends due as long ago as December last, the company is in a most unsatisfactory position.

It has filed no statutory accounts as required by law, and, after staving off investors with various excuses, has latterly lapsed into a complete silence.

Mr. G. Wilson Turner and his Rayon and General Development Corporation were also concerned in this flotation, in which the sub-underwriters defaulted blissfully when called upon to honour underwriting agreements.

Another company in which hundreds of people invested their money, and in which Mr. Turner occupies the presidential chair, is called Vendomatic, Ltd., of Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.

The Rayon and General Development Corporation also floated this venture, which was concerned with a scheme for the manufacture of automatic vending machines.

Mr. Turner, who was previously interested in the scheme, was the prime mover in the Vendomatic company. £15,000 was subscribed to this concern by the public.

The Corporation again failed to honour its agreements, although it received at least £14,000 of the Vendomatic company's funds.

The latter concern is now in liquidation, with liabilities totalling many thousands of pounds.

Two cheques issued by the Rayon and General Development Corporation for £18,823 and £20,996 in respect of its application for shares were dishonoured.

Last hope gone

We fear that the shareholders of Vendomatic will see no return for their money, for, to complete this sorry story, the Rayon and General Development Corporation has now gone into liquidation itself and is engulfed in liabilities that it can never hope to meet.

Surely complicated finance of this character, coupled as it is with business methods that are decidedly questionable, cannot be allowed to pass.

As many hundreds of misguided shareholders are involved in the various crashes here exposed, official action should be taken immediately

Weekly Informations—from SIR WYNDHAM CHILDS

STRANGE DEAL in BONDS

A LARGE number of people in this country are the holders of foreign premium bonds, purchased some years ago through a firm called Cunliffe Russell and Co., of Paris.

Since an attempt is now being made to induce them to exchange their bonds for stock in another company, a few words of warning would seem desirable.

A little while ago one of my readers received a communication from the Banque Anglo-Française, of 36, Rue Taitbout, Paris, advising him to forward any Egyptian Foncier Bonds that he held so that they could be "properly stamped."

It so happened that he held only one bond, but he sent this as requested and waited patiently for its return.

Never received

He heard nothing more, and when he wrote to enquire into the matter, he was told that the bond had never been received.

As he had omitted to register his letter, he could not press his claim further and had to let it drop.

A little later he was approached by the Banque Anglo-Française through a London office at 119, Moorgate, respecting some other foreign bonds, which he was urged to send for stamping immediately if he wished to avoid heavy duty.

He accordingly forwarded nineteen bonds, which were duly acknowledged.

Hearing nothing more, he wrote several times requesting the return of the bonds.

After being put off with various excuses, he received a document which purported to be a copy of his written instructions, which read as follows:

Kindly stamp and bring my bonds up to date and sell; proceeds to be re-invested in 1s. ordinary shares of Roebuck Film Co., at 4s. a share.

He could not remember having given the latter part of these instructions and demanded to be shown the original.

In reply he was informed that this could not be forwarded, but that he was free to appoint anyone he wished to see it.

Protesting that he could not come to Paris for that purpose, he suggested that the original letter should be sent to the London office for his inspection.

He has heard nothing more since. Surely it was up to the Banque to put the matter beyond all doubt.

Roebuck Films, Ltd., have since forwarded him fifty-eight ordinary 1s. share certificates that he does not want.

More complicated

While the Roebuck Films, Ltd., is registered in Guernsey, its offices are situated in Paris *at the same address as the Banque Anglo-Française.*

Matters become more complicated when I reveal that the latter company is not really a bank in the strict sense of the term, but is the successor of Cunliffe Russell and Co., through whom, it will be recalled, my reader originally purchased his foreign bonds.

The Banque Anglo-Francaise played an active part in the flotation of the Greyhound Racing and Breeding Association, Ltd., which, formed to found a racing-track in Paris, is now tottering to disaster.

Holders of foreign bonds should, therefore, be on their guard lest they are approached by representatives of the Banque Anglo-Française in this country.

Our Christmas Gift Offer
IMPORTANT

It is now or never if you wish to receive JOHN BULL's sensational Christmas Gift Offer in time for Christmas.

Readers who have not yet availed themselves of this great opportunity are advised to apply at once. Turn to page 34 now.

ALIEN CROOKS *defy* HOME OFFICE

FOLLOWING the anxiety aroused by the revelations concerning certain aliens who figured in the Goddard case, it was officially announced that the alien menace had been definitely checked.

This, we regret to say, has not been confirmed in fact, for the position is worse to-day than ever.

Although little has been said in the Press regarding the evil, undesirables of all nationalities continue to slip through our ports in complete defiance of the authorities.

So grave has the position become, in fact, that the Home Office has just called for a comprehensive police report on the subject.

The open door

Conclusive proof that passport officials are being extensively hoodwinked by wily foreigners is furnished by the following cases, all of which have cropped up during the past month.

One concerns an American named Murrey Kohl, who was found in this country without an authorisation certificate and passing in an assumed name.

He was questioned without avail as to how he got here and was finally detained pending enquiries.

It was then discovered that he was a leading member of a notorious gang of American share-swindlers, who, owing to his shady exploits, had been first refused permission to land at Folkestone as far back as 1925.

Refusing to be kept out, he later defeated the Home Office order by arriving at Croydon from Paris by aeroplane and passing through the Customs with a faked passport.

Discovered by the authorities, he was banished, but made repeated attempts to get back again, finally succeeding on October 20 last.

He used a ruse that is much in favour to-day.

He got a friend in London to purchase a non-passport week-end ticket from London to Paris

Receiving the return half through the post, he came here as an ordinary excursionist.

Although he has been deported again, it is a foregone conclusion that he will soon be back.

Sir Joseph Davies, of Dinas Powis, Glamorgan, had his pocket picked the other day in the crowded vestibule of a famous London theatre.

The Knight of Glamorgan "had his pocket picked"

A well-dressed Russian named Michael Vassilivitch was arrested for this offence, and it was found that he was unregistered and living in this country without authority.

He had come from Buenos Ayres working his passage on a Turkish vessel, which he deserted in an English port.

For months this man was engaged in various criminal acts.

A Spaniard and two Italians, named Jose Ma Garcia, Giuseppe Grassini and Oreste Conradi, were recently found by Scotland Yard to have been implicated in several robberies in London.

Caught red-handed

So extensive were their operations that officers of the Flying Squad had to be detailed to keep them under observation.

Finally, after a lot of trouble, they were caught red-handed, and, unregistered and unknown in the various aliens' record offices, they proved to be a trio of foreign criminals who had no right to be here.

Daniel Cosmine Boissannat, alias Daniel Casimer, is a Frenchman, who, after several months, was found to be living upon the earnings of English women in seaport towns.

He was rightly deported, but has since slipped back again, and fresh complaints about him have been received by the police, who are now searching for him.

Julius Frohlich is an Austrian seaman who recently deserted his ship at Birkenhead.

Since then he has passed several worthless cheques, but manages to evade the authorities, though a warrant is out for his arrest.

Sold birthright

Nicola Giccone is an Italian who secured work in England as a chauffeur.

But for an accident he had with his employer's car he would probably never have been unmasked.

Enquiries after the accident showed that he got here with a passport issued by the British Consul at Naples on the strength of a birth-certificate bought from a man who was born in Shoreditch.

A Russian named Farwitz Klupmann was arrested a couple of weeks ago in London for various ingenious bank-note swindles.

He had no passport or authorisation certificates, and the police are at a loss to know how long he has been here, or, what is more important, how he first entered the country.

It would be possible to multiply instances of this kind, where British taxpayers' money is being spent in coping with alien intruders who have defied our regulations.

At Dover, a fortnight ago, when seven unwanted alien stowaways were charged with endeavouring to land without permission, evidence was given that money was always being spent in deporting such rogues and that it would cost at least £70 to repatriate these men.

Mr. Sandbach, K.C., tried "the most glaring case." Above, Signor Bordonaro, the Italian Ambassador, should ask Mussolini to keep his own rogues

Perhaps the most glaring case before us is that of a Spaniard named Jiminez, who has just been charged before Mr. Sandbach at Lambeth Police Court with being in this country while a Home Office order for deportation was still in force against him.

His deportation was again ordered, but this means nothing.

Fourteen times

Jiminez, who was exposed by us as a hardened rogue more than a year ago, has been deported on at least fourteen occasions and has always contrived to return here almost immediately.

Such a state of affairs is ridiculous. The regulations should be revised so drastically as to make it impossible for these undesirables to return whenever they desire.

Invalid Nurse in MANACLES

TWO inhuman parents, Francis and Minnie Vingoe, of South View, Staplehurst, Kent, appeared before the Cranbrook, Kent, magistrates, charged with assaulting their invalid daughter, Cissie Vingoe, on various dates.

The father was also charged with assaulting a Mr. James Goold, a kindly neighbour who had sheltered the girl.

* * *

The facts make disgusting reading.

Following a spinal disease some seven years ago Cissie Vingoe became afflicted with intermittent mental trouble, and being forced to abandon her profession as a trained nurse, settled down to live with her parents.

It was obvious that she should have received adequate medical attention, but instead the parents adopted measures which will fill all decent people with horror.

The father himself fashioned some crude wooden manacles on the lines of miniature stocks, a photograph of which we reproduce above.

Whenever the poor girl became troublesome, these monstrous implements were securely clamped to her wrists and ankles, "locked" by means of screws.

A chain was also used to shackle her to her bed.

Cissie Vingoe told the magistrates that she had been shackled almost continuously from March till October this year, and had made many attempts to escape before she finally succeeded on October 20.

* * *

She managed to crawl painfully to the house of Mr. Goold, a hundred yards away, where, on relating her terrible story, she was readily taken in and succoured.

Later her father called to remonstrate with her benefactor, whom he assaulted before he could finally be persuaded to leave.

The magistrates considered the case against the parents clearly proven, and commented gravely upon the use of mechanical restraint such as would not have been permitted even in an asylum.

When we think of the long, weary months during which the stricken daughter has been kept daily chained to her bed, denied all medical attention, the thanks of all right-minded people are due to Mr. Goold.

The tortured girl, who is still receiving shelter in his home, is shortly being sent to an institution, where she will be properly cared for.

Meanwhile, her inhuman parents are serving two months in jail—a sentence they richly deserve.

GENEROUS!

MESSRS. SEWARD, FRASER & CO., of Dashwood House, Old Broad Street, London, E.C., are broadcasting unsolicited circulars offering an "Investment Service" to show people "how to solve their financial problems."

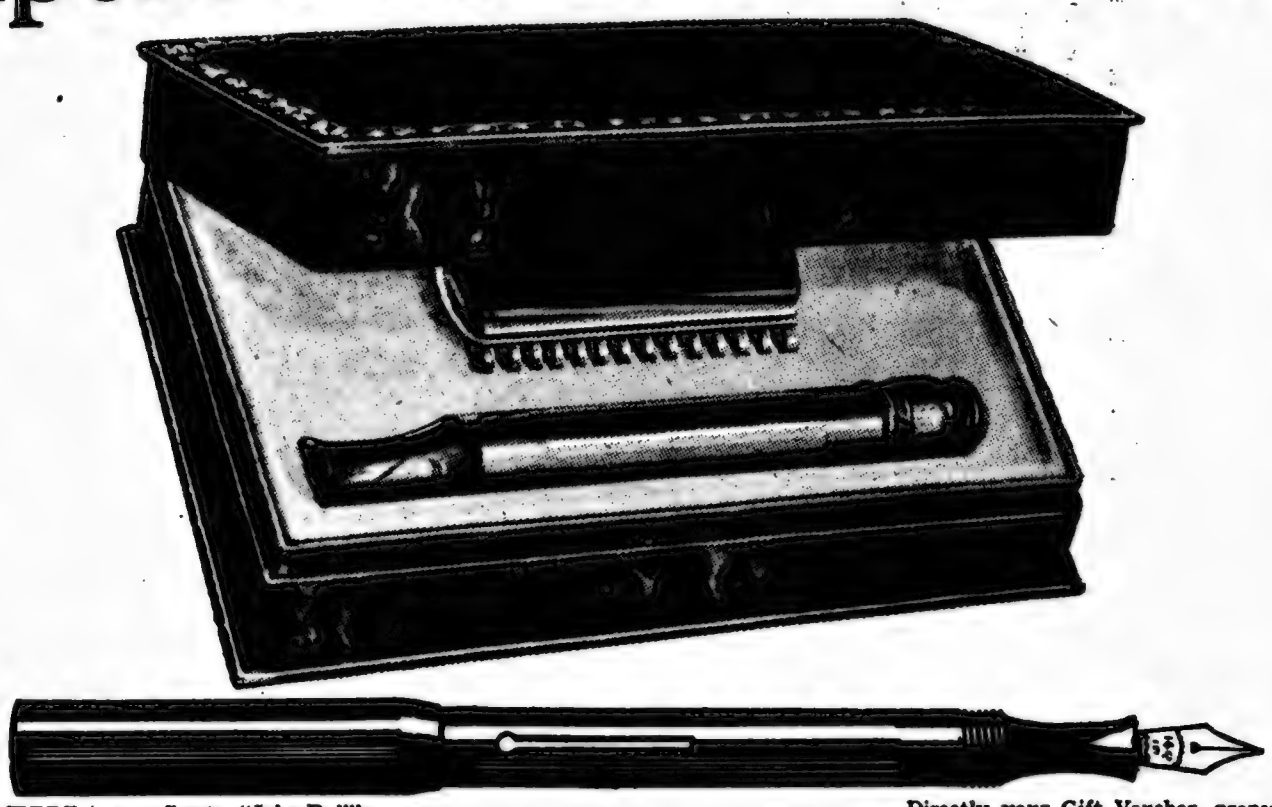
They would have the public believe that they are out to give "absolutely disinterested advice," and that they are well qualified to do so, having made "the science of investment a lifelong study."

This service is offered for £5 a year, but, with a generous gesture, the firm is willing to put investors on its waiting-list free.

Seward, Fraser & Co. appears to be the trading name of an individual named P. S. Seward, but he hasn't bothered to register it at Somerset House. Perhaps he has been too busy studying the science of investment.

Nice, kind people are always cropping up like this and falling over themselves in their endeavours to help perfect strangers to make their fortunes. Oddly enough they do not seem to want to use their "inside knowledge" to enrich themselves.

This Superb Double Gift FREE



A "Gillette" Razor Set Mayfair de Luxe.

The Razor Set which we offer you is known as the "Mayfair de Luxe," the last word in elegance and luxury. The moment you open the handsome case, you will be struck by the sheer magnificence of our gift. The razor is **gold plated** and reposes in a bed of primrose velvet. The set comes to you complete with blade. A very pleasant surprise is in store for you!

The 5/- "Passing Show" Pen.

Write with it! Experience its velvety touch. The nib is of 14 carat solid gold and has a jewel-like point of costly iridium. Fill it!—you can do so in a jiffy because it is a "lever self-filler." Admire it! See how wonderfully it is burnished—how magnificently chased — how finely finished. The workmanship is British throughout. A wonderful gift—one that will give you good service, one that you will be proud to possess.

to "John Bull" readers who will give the "Passing Show" a fair trial!

HERE is an offer to "John Bull" readers which for sheer magnificence is, we believe, quite unprecedented. But the offer which we are now making is limited for a few days only—no applications will be accepted after First post, Tuesday, December 31. If you are NOT already a reader of "The Passing Show," and if you will undertake to give "The Passing Show" a trial for ten consecutive weeks, we will present to you absolutely FREE a superb double gift, consisting of a genuine "Mayfair" "Gillette" Razor Set AND a 5/- Lever Self-Filling "Passing Show" Fountain Pen, fitted with a 14-carat solid gold nib tipped with costly iridium.

A brief description of the two superb gifts which we are offering appears above. Read this description and see what we offer to every new reader who will give "The Passing Show" a trial for only ten weeks.

In order to qualify for your Gift, we ask you to cut out and affix ten consecutively numbered coupons from the bottom left-hand corner of the back cover of "The Passing Show" to the Gift Voucher which will be sent to you on receipt of the Reservation Form below.

Directly your Gift Voucher, properly completed, is received by "The Passing Show," your FREE Double Gift will be forwarded to you without delay. There is no catch. There are no hidden conditions. The full conditions are printed below.

Obviously we could not afford to make an offer of this nature were we not reasonably certain that after you have taken "The Passing Show" for ten weeks you will then wish to remain as a regular reader.

There is no other paper quite like "The Passing Show." It is the silver lining to life. It is the best thing in black and white for the blues. It turns life funny-side-out—it helps you to face your dentist with a smile, your income-tax collector with a chuckle and your undertaker with optimism.

Fill in the forms below to-day. Hand the **Order Form** to your Newsagent. Post the **Reservation Form** to "The Passing Show." Upon receipt of the Reservation Form, a Gift Voucher will be posted to you, and at the same time our double Gift will be set aside and reserved in your name. **ACT NOW.** Remember this offer definitely closes **First Post, Tuesday, December 31.**

Rules and Conditions.

The object of this scheme is to get bona fide new readers for "The Passing Show." We reserve the right to disqualify for our Gift any applicant who shall be found upon verification to be already a reader. A new reader shall be held to be a person who has not purchased "The Passing Show" for the last three months.

In order to qualify for the Gift Set, it is necessary for the new reader to place an order with his newsagent for the regular delivery of "The Passing Show."

When applicants have qualified for Gift Sets they are required to send One Shilling to cover cost of packing, postage, insurance and pocket clip, etc.

Not more than one member of a family living at one address may qualify for one of these Gifts.

This offer applies only to persons residing in the British Isles.

Important.

Be sure to post the RESERVATION FORM on the right to "The Passing Show" to-day. Directly this form is received our superb free Double Gift will be set aside and reserved in your name. Remember also that it is one of the conditions of our offer that you hand the ORDER FORM, on the extreme right, to your Newsagent. Kindly fill it in now and see that your Newsagent receives it before you post your Reservation Form to "The Passing Show."

Do not run the risk of missing your Gift by omitting to carry out this important condition.

PASSING SHOW

BRITAIN'S BRIGHTEST WEEKLY—TWOPENCE

Post this form to "The Passing Show."

POST AT ONCE

This Form brings your GIFT VOUCHER

Reservation Form

To "The Passing Show" (Dept. J. B.), 85, Long Acre, W.C.2

This Form reserves in your name the Double Gift of a genuine "Mayfair" "Gillette" Razor Set and a 5/- Lever Self-filling Fountain Pen.

I **CERTIFY that I am NOT** already a reader of "The Passing Show," and that I have not purchased "The Passing Show" for the last three months, also that I have not already qualified for one of the Free Gifts under this scheme. I undertake, commencing with the number on sale this week, to give "The Passing Show" a trial for ten consecutive weeks. I have to-day placed an order with the undermentioned newsagent for the regular delivery of "The Passing Show," and give his name and address for verification purposes. In accordance with your special offer, please reserve in my name your Free Gift of a "Mayfair" "Gillette" Razor Set, AND a 5/- Lever Self-filling Fountain Pen, and also send me the Gift Voucher on which I may qualify for my Gift. As I have now placed a standing order for the regular delivery of "The Passing Show," please register me under "The Passing Show" Free Travel and Accident Insurance Gift, and send me Registration Certificate setting forth full benefits and conditions. N.B.—You may post this form in an unsealed envelope bearing a half-penny stamp. **Applicants MUST also enclose halfpenny stamped, addressed envelope to cover return postage on Gift Voucher and Registration Certificate.**

Z

Leave this space blank.

New Reader's Name .....

Address .....

.....

New Reader's Signature .....

Newsagent's Name .....

Address ..... Date .....

CHECKED AND VERIFIED .....

J.B.21/12/29. **PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY. Available only up to first post Tuesday, December 31.**

Don't forget to enclose halfpenny stamped address envelope for reply.

Hand this Form to Your Newsagent

ORDER FORM

"THE PASSING SHOW"

Twopence Weekly

To (Name of Newsagent) .....

Address .....

.....

Please deliver or reserve "The Passing Show" for me weekly until further notice.

Signature .....

Address .....

Date .....

THE IMMORTAL RED-HOT POKER

by A. G. GARDINER

The oldest clown still in harness. Whimsical Walker would leave a sick bed rather than miss the fun among the kiddies

"PEACHES are not what they were when I was a boy," remarked the old gentleman in "Gil Blas." It is not an uncommon grievance against the present. Few things are what they were when we were boys.

Even boys, according to Mr. Birrell who was talking about them the other day, are not what they were when he was a boy.

What Fifths of November we used to have in the long ago! Rockets seemed to hit the stars in those days, and the bonfires were as big as St. Paul's—at least. Perhaps bigger.

Then think of the pancakes we had on Shrove Tuesday and the hot-cross buns on Good Friday! Don't tell me (says the old gentleman to us), don't tell me that pancakes and hot-cross buns are what they were when I was a boy.

Above all, where have those jolly Christmases that we used to have gone—good old-fashioned winter with lashings of snow to pelt each other with, and plenty of ice where a fellow could slither and slide and skate, and holly and mistletoe—there were berries in those days!—and blazing logs and Christmas-trees and plum-puddings and mince-pies that linger on the palate of memory?

He has changed

Why, my dear sir (says the old gentleman), plum-puddings to-day are not a patch on what plum-puddings were then.

Then, again, where are the pantomimes? Clowns and Harlequins, pierrots and sweet Columbines? Gone, sir, gone. Out of fashion, sir. All the rollicking fun and laughter banished from the stage.

Ah! What times we had when I was a boy! Those were the days!

They were indeed. But, as in the case of the old gentleman and the peaches, is it quite so certain that things have changed so much as we have?

Peaches are still peaches, although we may have lost the gusto of youth, and Christmas is still Christmas, though the edge of our appetite for plum-pudding is a little dulled and we no longer find it such fun to go sliding under the stars.

Same old weather

It is true, no doubt, that things are not what they were, though they have, I believe, changed in essentials much less than the old gentleman in us imagines.

Those old-fashioned winters that we hear so much about, for example. When were they? Not, my dear sir, when you were a boy.

I have taken some pains to find from contemporary records what the winters were like for three centuries past, and I can assure you, sir, that they are now much as they used to be—generally mild, occasionally hard.

You doubt me? You remember when you were a boy? May I respectfully say "Fudge."

And may I refer you, for instance, to "Pepys' Diary," where you will find him remarking, on a day in January, that this morning he woke and saw snow on the houses opposite; this, he says, being the first snow he had seen for three winters.

And that was nearly three hundred years ago—long before you were a boy.

No, sir, I do not say that things have not changed; but it is only the garment and fashion of things that change.

Take the pantomime, for example. I do not remember a time when it was not being said that the day of the pantomime was over.

They used to say it when I was a boy, and they have been saying it ever since.

My grandfather used to look back to the days of Grimaldi, and say that pantomimes were nothing to the pantomimes when he was a boy.

I did not believe him then, for I couldn't believe that anything earthly could be more glorious fun than the pantomimes I saw when I was a boy.

And I do not believe him now.

Pantomime has had its ups and downs, and the fashion of laughter has changed with the coming of the musical comedy and the revue and the poetical fantasies of Barrie and Maeterlinck.

But the jolly old knock-about spirit of the pantomime is immortal; and while boys are boys—no matter what their age—they will revel in its wild and splendid nonsense.

Its externals may change with the modern novelties of lighting and effects and with the modern tendency to sophistication.

But at the base of it all is the same old banana-skin, the same old red-hot poker that Grimaldi passed on to Dan Leno and Herbert Campbell, and that they in turn passed on to Billy Merson and George Jackley.

Laugh, boy, laugh!

And if the old gentleman insists that pantomimes are done, I direct his attention to the fact that we are promised this Christmas the greatest revival of pantomime for years—eight separate shows in London and 130 throughout the country.

If he will take Young Breeches (aged ten) with him to any of them, he will find through that channel that, given the appetite for wholesome fare, the pantomime to-day can be as uproarious an affair as it was when he was a boy.

May they enjoy it!

The spirit of this most kindly and companionable season remains, and for the mass of us the form of commemoration remains also.

It is the Festival of Home and the Festival of Childhood—the challenge we fling out from the heart of the winter against the darkness and desolation of Nature, and against those fanatics of change who believe that the redemption of society is to be accomplished by wiping out the family and making our children the orphans of the State.

Shouts of delight

Before these dismal and futile dreamers we raise the vision of a Merry England, still attached to the sanctities of the home; still bound by the warm, human affections of kinship; still paying homage at the cradle of the Child.

We hang our walls with holly in a million homes. We hear the waits coming up the path in the darkness to sing us the old songs and remind us of the old legends.

We creep stealthily into the children's bedrooms with the stuffed stockings of that hallowed impostor Father Christmas, and we awake in the morning, ere it is light, to the shouts of delighted discovery.

And so "on with the dance" and the glorious revels of the day.

Do not tell me, O dreary Iconoclast, that all this festival of good humour and good will and good comradeship is antiquated mummery. It springs warm from the heart of humanity and expresses its deepest and most enduring instincts.

If the iconoclasts could wipe out Christmas to-day, humanity would invent it again to-morrow, for it could not live without the benediction that its cheerful recurrence throws over the passage of the years.

Christmas before Christ

Homely Wisdom—by CANON R. J. CAMPBELL, D.D.

TRAVELLING in Egypt and southern Europe, I have been struck by a queer thing: The worship of a divine child in the arms of his mother is thousands of years older than Christianity.

I have stood where excavations were being made of the remains of a city that perished long before Christ was born, and I saw little figures taken therefrom almost exactly the same as those of the Virgin Mary and the Child Jesus that we see in churches to-day.

How is this to be explained?

The answer is that the ancient world was looking and longing for what has come to pass in the birth of Jesus Christ.

Up till Christ was born no being had ever lived on earth who was pure enough and good enough to reveal the best that God is and show us that we can become like it.

THE touching story of the lowly birth at Bethlehem, the gentle mother and the manger-cradle, the herald angels and the worshipping shepherds, has done more to humanise religion and increase brotherly kindness than all other influences put together.

Christmas has rightly been called the feast of the poor, for it is a constant reminder that the divinest life that was ever lived, and the brightest hope that the world ever saw, did not begin among the rich and great, but among the humble and obscure.

It is told of the famous Russian, Count Leo Tolstoi, that on one occasion, being attracted by the sound of singing in his own kitchen on Christmas Eve, he tip-toed to the door and found his servants burning candles before a picture of the infant Christ and the peasant mother, and chanting joyful praises while they did it.

AS quietly as he went, the great man came away and whispered to his son, with tears in his eyes: "Yes, this little Christ is more theirs than ours."

The mistletoe and the Yule log are older than Christianity, too, so old that no one knows how far back they go.

They belong specially to the cold and darkness of the north, but they fit in well with the Christmas message of love and light.

Our rude ancestors hung mistletoe over their doors as a token of peace and friendship. Foes laid down their weapons before passing under it.

The Yule log was the emblem of warmth and cheer that made the hearth the centre of the home.

Christmas has a glorious pedigree. The more love and joy we can put into it the truer to its spirit we are.

When you adopt these five simple rules—

1. Lather well, using hot water, for at least two minutes—the longer the better.

SHAVING IS SMOOTHER .... MORE REFRESHING

NO TWO MEN use their razors quite alike. Yet there are certain principles of shaving which every man must obey. And experts who have spent many years in the study of shaving methods have now reduced these underlying essentials to five perfectly simple rules.

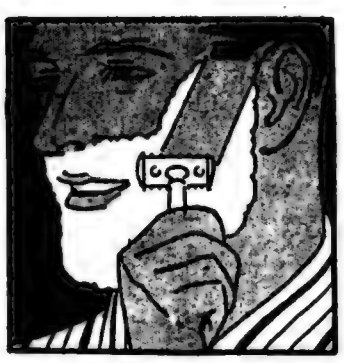
2. Hold the razor still against the temple and draw the skin, with the other hand, upwards and away from the razor.

By following these rules carefully you can make certain of a really smooth, satisfying shave—if you use a reliable blade.

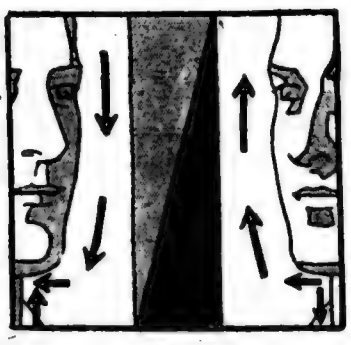
Gillette blades are manufactured from hard Sheffield steel, and have the finest edge that steel will take.

And you may rely on every blade being perfect. Simply because out of every nine employees at the Gillette blade plant, four are assigned to the sole duty of *inspecting* blades.

Try shaving tomorrow the correct way --with a Gillette blade. Gillette Safety Razor Limited, 184-8 Great Portland Street, London, W.1.



3. In shaving the rest of the face, let the razor meet the beard diagonally.



4. The first time you go over the face stroke *with* the growth of the beard, the second time *against* it.

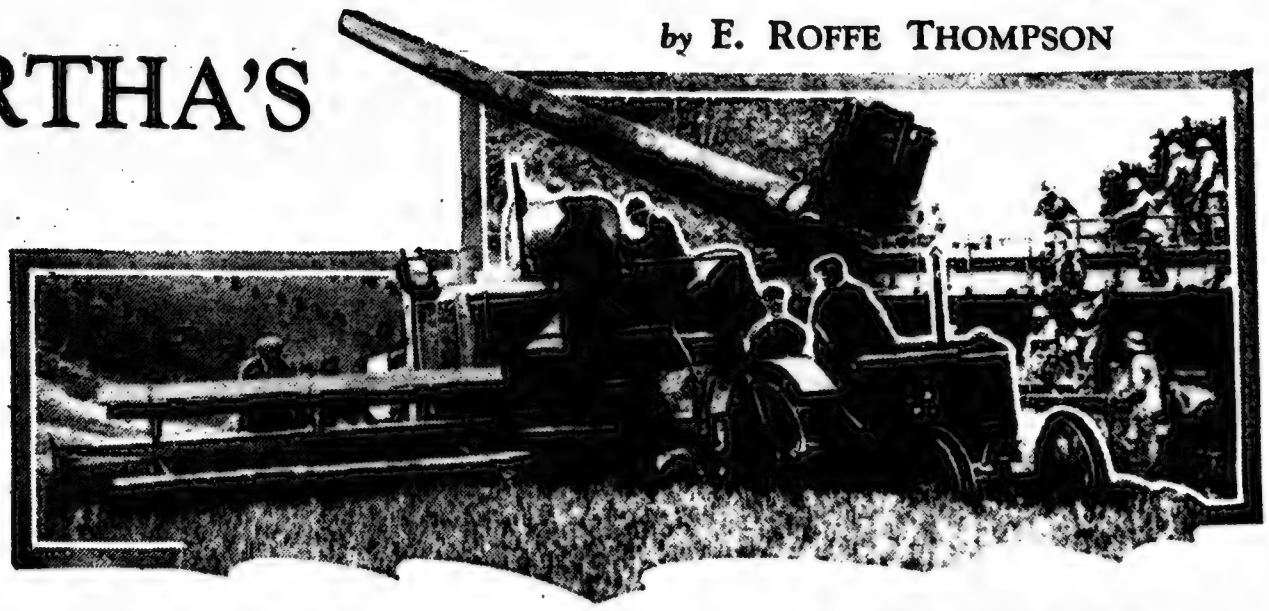
5. Always remove the blade from the razor to clean it. Run hot water over it, and dry it without going against the edge.

Gillette

BLADES

BIG BERTHA'S Ring o' Roses

by E. ROFFE THOMPSON



Krupps have taken to growing roses instead of making Big Bertha guns. It pays them even better to make reapers and ploughs

THE other day a London newspaper announced that Krupps, once the greatest armament firm in the world, was turning its attention to market gardening, and building acres of glass-houses with the idea of supplying the whole of industrial Western Germany with flowers, fruit and vegetables.

"Here," said the newspaper, "is some temptation for the poet of the languid style to murmur hackneyed stuff about swords and ploughshares.

"But the cold fact is more interesting than metaphors. Krupps are going in for pansies because they will pay and Big Berthas will not."

Well, I make no pretence to being "a poet of the languid style." Neither do I find the Bible particularly hackneyed.

Swords—ploughshares

This piece of news brings irresistibly to the mind the prophecy of Isaiah, who said:

"And they shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning-hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

For Krupps is more than a great armament firm that has stopped making guns and bayonets and shells and taken to growing roses and making every conceivable kind of industrial instrument—even down to sewing-machines and gramophone needles.

It is both the keynote and the symbol of Germany's astounding industrial rebirth, an object-lesson of what men can accomplish when they turn their thoughts to construction instead of destruction.

It is, no doubt, perfectly true that "Krupps are going in for pansies because they will pay and Big Berthas will not."

Peace always pays.

The Christmas message of "Peace on earth and good will towards men" was not mere empty words.

Worse than ever

The world has failed to learn the lesson for 2,000 years. It would be ironic if a world that is daily recrucifying Christ on a mountain of armaments should be forced at last to learn the lesson from Germany. Yet stranger things have happened.

"Peace on earth"—is there peace on earth this twelfth Christmas after the war to end war?

Europe alone is spending annually £524,000,000 on armaments, more than £40,000,000 above what she spent in 1913; and this despite reductions that the Peace Treaty imposed on the defeated Powers.

Out of the £900,000,000 per annum which the world is spending on preparing for the next war, Europe spends two-thirds—Christian Europe, whose church bells will, in a few days' time, ring out their message to deaf ears.

The other day, in the House of Commons, Mr. Lloyd George denounced the League of Nations as in danger of being run by flapdoodles, and reminded his hearers that we have not yet begun to carry out the obligation we undertook in May, 1919.

What did we say when the German delegation was presented with the crushing terms of the Versailles Treaty? This:

"The Allied and Associated Powers wish to make it clear that their requirements in regard to German armaments were not made solely with the object of rendering it impossible to resume her policy of military aggression.

"They are also the first step towards that general reduction and limitation of armaments which they seek to bring about as one of the most fruitful preventives of war, and which it will be one of the first duties of the League of Nations to promote."

The figures I have already quoted are a sufficient comment on the mockery of the Christmas bells.

We are only just beginning to realise what an immense boon we conferred on Germany when we disarmed her—and we did disarm her, thoroughly and effectively.

Out of a population of 65,000,000, she is only permitted to maintain a maximum army of 100,000 strong.

She is entirely deprived of all the most effective modern weapons, and such armament as she is allowed is, in effect, that of the nineteenth century.

She has no heavy guns, no tanks, no military aeroplanes and no huge reserves of ammunition. She has no great arsenals turning out military stores day and night.

A non-runner

And in consequence she has no unproductive burden to carry. Every ounce of energy, every penny of money is going into useful work.

If the League of Nations was to tear up the Versailles Treaty to-morrow and give Germany full permission to enter once more for the great International Suicide Stakes, she would laugh and go on with her work.

That peace pays is patent to all observers.

Just suppose that, as the Christmas bells ring out, the £100,000,000 that Mr. Snowden will have to find for war services next April could vanish like a bad dream.

Does anyone doubt that before another Christmas this country would be well on the way to such prosperity as we have not yet conceived?

For Germany's industrial figures are as staggering in their immensity as they are sensational in their inference.

The output of her engineering industry was £30,000,000 up on last year. Her shipping trade is 35 per cent. greater than before the war.

Her mercantile marine has risen to 3,800,000 tons, and her merchant fleet is now the fourth largest in the world.

The output of her motor-car factories doubled between 1926 and 1928, and she is mining 10,000,000 tons more coal a year than she did before the war.

Last August her exports were £6,000,000 greater in value than her imports, and last year they rose by no less than £70,000,000.

Income-tax was reduced last year, and there is talk of still further reduction.

While the cost of living is in this country 65 per cent. above pre-war rates, it is only 54 per cent. in Germany.

And in every possible way her industries are being remodelled and reorganised to achieve the maximum of efficiency.

Gave her the key

She has been able to do it because we very kindly handed her the only key which would unlock the door to booming industry and soaring prosperity.

We forbade her to do anything except exploit her own resources and devote her energies to social and industrial betterment.

Alone among all the great countries of Europe she has no unproductive work, no unprofitable effort.

All her colossal strength which used to run to waste on armaments is now diverted to strictly useful and productive purposes.

That is the whole secret.

There are few better tests of a country's prosperity than the savings of its people. The savings of the German people tell their own tale.

At the end of last year the deposits with German savings-banks amounted to £454,500,000, and the increase during those twelve months was the colossal sum of 2,670,000,000 marks.

All this is not so much an economic demonstration as a lesson in what disarmament can mean in hard cash to a burdened people.

It is a set of facts that, for once, drives home with fearful force the message of the Christmas bells.

Nor learn war

"Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more"—it is worth more than a passing thought, isn't it?

We have forced Germany to become prosperous.

Whose fault is it if we ourselves refuse to follow her down the golden path we compelled her to tread?

The Human Machine

You'll be SURPRISED

A LITTLE pride, even a little self-conceit, is not a bad thing at times: not the conceit that offends others, but the pride that makes us realise we are individuals with powers and abilities that are our own.

There is something we can all do that no one else can accomplish. Somewhere in us all lies a tiny spark of specialised ability that only we ourselves can fan into flame.

How many of us ever trouble to look for it? How many of us even trouble to wonder whether what we do day by day is the work we are fitted to do or merely a set of rails on which we trundle along because we are too indolent to do otherwise?

"And be not thou too lowly in thy thought:
No man before thee, since the world began,
Could do the work that lies upon thy loom;
If thou neglect or slight it, it is loss
To all the world, in all the time to come."

Wake up and use your imagination: see yourself as you might be, and think less about yourself as you are. Your contribution to life may seem to you trivial and unimportant, but you never know. It is others, not you, who are in a position to judge.

But, whoever you are, you are worth taking serious notice of, for there is nobody else like you. How do you know you are not a great writer, a forceful preacher, a new Edison or another Ford? Have you ever tried?

Have you ever seriously taken stock of your abilities and got a sane idea of your own value?

You may think you are a tramcar, destined to be a tramcar for life. Get off the rails and try being a racing motor-car for a change. Maybe you'll be surprised.

A gift should be the best of its kind therefore

Give Player's

Cigarettes

In decorated tins of
50 for 2'6 100 for 4'10 150 for 7'3

N.C.C.765.

READERS of "John Bull" need never hesitate about replying to advertisers' announcements, as every trade advertisement is covered by the "John Bull" Guarantee.

Shampoo yourself with

Cuticura Soap

FIRST rub your scalp lightly with Cuticura Ointment . . . . Then shampoo with a liquid soap made by dissolving shavings of Cuticura Soap in a little hot water. Rinse thoroughly in tepid water. A clean scalp is essential to good hair.

Soap 1s. Ointment 1s. 3d. and 2s. 6d. Talcum 1s. 3d. Sold everywhere.

For sample each address: F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd. 31, Banner Street, London, E.C. 1.

FAST ROLLING

Use Zig-Zag, the easy rolling crisp, fresh, pure, cigarette papers — and enjoy a better smoke.

ZIG-ZAG

CIGARETTE PAPERS

"EVER SO GOOSEY—
"YOU'RE THE CREAM IN MY COFFEE—
"I GIVE MYSELF A PAT ON THE BACK—
"PAINTING THE CLOUDS WITH SUNSHINE
"IT'S BEEN A BAD YEAR FOR THE BABIES"
"MISBEHAVING—
"AM I BLUE"
EMPIRE CRUSADE MARCH
NOTHING ABOUT IN THE GARDEN
BUDGET BOX
Fergus Whitelaw

PANTO SONGS FOR POLITICIANS

Without Fear or Favour

A Christmas-Box we all want

ONE of the most dramatic years in the history of politics has reached its close. Last Christmas the affairs of the country were in the hands of a Conservative Government with an impregnable majority.

It appeared impossible that the election which was pending could materially affect the predominance of the Party in power. The margin of Conservative seats seemed overwhelming.

The unexpected happened. In a few months Mr. Baldwin's Cabinet had been swept from Whitehall. Its place had been taken by a Party which, if it had abandoned the slogan of "Socialism in our time," stood, at least, for the antitheses of most things that Conservative rule implied.

We are not jeopardising our reputation for independence when we confess that we welcomed the change. Most people did. Many Conservatives even, who loyally voted for their love of a lifetime, failed to summon up tears over the eclipse of their leaders.

The country wanted a change, and wanted it badly. We were in a rut. The lethargy of too great security had crept over the Government benches, and the great ills that followed on the war were left well-nigh untended.

Any change, so felt the plain man, was a change for the better. Mr. MacDonald's accession to power was less a victory for Labour than a national expression of hope. He was "given a chance."

It is too early yet to pass judgment on the Labour effort. Given time, great things will be attempted by the Government that is pledged to wider efforts of reform than any of its predecessors in power since the franchise was granted. Some big things may be done.

BUT we have our doubts. Even with a clear working majority, and the best will in the world, the Prime Minister could not effect, unless over a long course of years, widespread and really comprehensive legislation. The machinery of legislation itself would prevent him.

Parliament, for reasons which we explained as fully as we might in a recent issue, is on the point of ceasing to be effective, except as a means of spending money. Its procedure is hopelessly involved. The simple and effective structure that served our forefathers well is now almost wholly obscured.

Before Parliament can cure the nation it must first cure itself. Otherwise the nation will look for another instrument.

The disrepute of the political machine has reached a dangerous stage—dangerous for itself, that is. All classes suspect it. Even Conservative journals write of the "Decline of the Legislature," impartially as between Tory and Socialist.

There is talk of a committee to consider means of reforming Parliament. Let the leaders of all Parties act in unison for once and settle down to it.

Their promise now would be a Christmas-box for all of us.

* * *

NOT much notice has been taken of the visit to this country of M. Kerensky. People have almost forgotten him.

Words, Words, Words

For the information of those who have had a lot of other things to think about these last dozen years, Kerensky was the man who bobbed up on top with the first wave of the Russian revolution.

Kerensky was a great talker. Once set going, he could harangue for hours on end without loss of breath. He could also wave his arms in a fashion that would paralyse a tick-tack man with awe

Lenin and Trotsky had as firm a belief in physical force as a British policeman, and, like him, they didn't talk much. They told Kerensky to move on, but he went on talking. They gave him a push, and that was the end of Kerensky.

Mussolini did the same thing with the talkers in Italy, some of whom could orate even better than Kerensky. Mussolini is running Italy, and they are still talking in exile.

Some years ago Britain looked like joining in a European war. The pacifists resolved to keep us out of it. So they held a great mass meeting in Trafalgar Square.

They kept up the speeches for hours, turn and turn about. Then a squad of mounted police, reinforced by a heavy thunder-shower, cleared the Square, and the war went on.

It's all wrong that the world should be like this, but the moral is that if you have a job to do, talking won't do it for you.

DAYS when marine engineers hopelessly haunted shipping offices are gone. Indeed, there is an alarming shortage of those skilled men whose work is essential if our immense mercantile marine is to go on, let alone hold its world lead.

"Mac" of the Stokehold

The reason for this shortage is remarkable. In the slump after the war many engineers were thrown out of work. America welcomed them with open arms, and they are lost for ever to Britain and the sea.

Then came the call for larger ships in our marine, with more auxiliary machinery. Engine-room staffs had to be doubled, and even in the cargo tramps two men were needed where before there was one.

The supply of apprentices and trained men was still large; but it was observed that wages for qualified engineers did not increase in keeping with those paid ashore.

So began the trek from the ships inland. Not only have the engineers ashore better pay, but life on land is more attractive than the hell of the engine-room in the tropics or the long hours standing watch in a ship punching through wintry seas.

SEE what happened. "Mac" and his friend "Geordie" of the engine-room planted their dunnage and put in the window of their roadside steel shack the framed certificates from the Board of Trade. From these beginnings arose the prosperous road garage.

Others easily got work with municipalities and transport firms and in the great motor-repair works of the city. No more bilge pumps, stokeholds and cargo-winches for them.

The alarming fact to-day is that apprentices are not coming forward in anything like sufficient numbers for marine training in the engineering shops. They say they know a better thing than that, and their fathers agree with them.

The situation is becoming more grave than the shipping lines care to admit. There is one remedy if the mercantile marine is to keep its supreme mechanical efficiency—more wages and more attractive conditions.

If The Babe were Born To-day

by SIDNEY DARK

"It is a foolish lie to say they would be unhappy under better conditions"

AND there were in the same country shepherds, abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

This is the beginning of the finest story in the world.

"The same country" was the hills of Judea, south of the city of Jerusalem and hard by the village of Bethlehem; an arid country where, two thousand years ago as now, the peasant must toil hard to gain a livelihood from the thin soil.

It was a cold night, so the legend runs, as the shepherds huddled round the fire, guarding their sheep from wolves and from thieves. The winter had been unusually wet. Part of the flock had been drowned in the torrential rains.

The shepherds were wet and sleepy, keeping themselves awake with a sort of dice game which they played with chestnuts.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.

The charm, the poetry, the significance of the story are all to be found in the fact that it was to half a dozen rude, unlettered peasants, outside an unimportant village in one of the poorest countries in the ancient world, that the angel was sent to announce the most portentous event in the whole history of mankind.

The Emperor Octavius in Rome was the ruler of the civilised world. In the Imperial City was a cultured and civilised society that included the poet Ovid and the great historian Livy.

Not in palaces

The glory that was Greece had passed away, and for a hundred and fifty years the country of Plato and Socrates and Aristotle had been a Roman province. But Greece still possessed wealthy cities and an attractive culture.

In Egypt, the great city of Alexandria, built three hundred years before by Alexander the Great, was another centre of learning and commerce.

But neither to the Emperor in Rome nor to the poets and historians, nor to the wealthy merchants, nor even to the High Priest in the Temple at Jerusalem, a few miles away, did the angel appear on the first Christmas morning.

The heavenly message was delivered, by deliberate intent, to half a dozen men who could neither read nor write, who were ill-clothed and not too well fed, and who probably had never in their whole lives been farther from their homes than the city of Jerusalem across the hills.

The message, sent to the poor, was intended for the poor.

Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

In the stable

That was the first time that the *Gloria in Excelsis*, the most famous of Christian hymns, was ever heard on the earth. When they heard it, the shepherds, moved equally by awe and curiosity, wrapped their cloaks round them, left their sheep, and hurried towards the village.

Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Picture the scene. On the evening before, Joseph, summoned by the order of the Roman Governor to return to his native village for the purpose of a census, had tried in vain to find shelter.

The village was crowded. Joseph went from door to door, but every house was full. His wife was weary and ill. It was evident that her baby must soon be born.

There was no room for them in the inn.

He was repulsed, none too politely, for innkeepers have always had a keen eye for the thin purse; but, when they were almost in despair, Amos, the boot-boy of the inn, a bullied, over-worked, orphan child, came to their aid. It is always the poor that help the poor.

Grateful indeed, Joseph followed the boy, who afterwards brought him scraps of food from the inn kitchen. And in the cave-stable, lying on the straw, warmed, again as the legend says, by the breath of ox and ass, Mary brought forth the Son Who was to change the history of the world.

An hour or so later, the shepherds found the stable and stood in the entrance-way, with the diffidence and courtesy that never fail rough men, gazing in wonder at the Mother and the Child.

They had brought simple presents with them—one a handful of cherries, another a pigeon, a third a ball with which the Child might later play.

Christmas has remained the feast of the child, the feast of the family, the feast of the simple, and as one thinks of it one is impressed by the magnificent daring of the setting of the Nativity.

And what does it all mean?

The world at the beginning of the Roman Empire was a world of violent contrasts. There was a small privileged class, cultured, wealthy, "clothed in purple and fine linen and feasting sumptuously every day."

And in the cities of the Empire there was a great slave population, whose lives were spent in weaving the fine linen and in preparing the sumptuous feasts, existing on "the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table."

Outside the cities were the illiterate peasants, whose lives were hard and stunted, shut away from any participation in the good things of the earth. And, as I have said, it was to peasant and to slave that what may be called the slogan of Christianity was first proclaimed.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Nineteen hundred and twenty-nine years have passed. Millions and millions of men have followed the example of the shepherds of Bethlehem and have worshipped the Christ, not in a stable, but in humble village churches and in great cathedrals.

The Church, which He founded, has grown into a world society, which has largely been the creator of what we call world civilisation.

Call of honour

Men who accept all that is claimed for Him, and men who are unable to believe the story of the Incarnation, agree in their admiration for the character and teaching of the Babe of Bethlehem. What is the admiration worth?

On earth peace!

We are paying the price, and our children's children will go on paying the price, for the most destructive war in the history of man.

So far as our own country was concerned, the war began in a wave of unselfish idealism. No man wanted war. Most men believed that Great Britain was called to take her part in the war by honour and regard for high principles.

Now all the world knows that the war was the result of senseless ambition on the one hand and lack of vision on the other.

And this Christmas, as we think of the dead, the maimed and the broken-hearted, we may well pray: "From the folly and self-seeking of men in high places, good Lord deliver us!"

And *Good will toward men!*

Last Christmas Eve I spent the

They played on their bells the "Gloria in Excelsis," the most famous of Christmas hymns

"The Nativity," a great modern conception by the distinguished French painter Lerolle

afternoon in the mean streets of a parish in the west of London.

I went with the parish priest from house to house, helping to distribute the Christmas fare bought with the pennies and sixpences collected from his flock, themselves none too well off.

The houses were once decent dwellings, built for and inhabited by one family. Now there is a family in every room. In many cases the stairs are without bannisters; the sanitary arrangements are generally disgusting.

Father, mother and children are cooped in hovels which even the frantic industry of the harassed mothers—and the world has never seen greater heroines—cannot possibly keep clean. Bugs and rats are the inevitable adjuncts of these "homes."

Parcels of joy

My friend the priest is a very human person. There was no question as to whether the mother was a churchgoer or not, or whether the father occasionally was drunk—and who would not be who had to live in these conditions?

In the parcels there was a roll of tobacco and a bottle of sweets, as well as beef, potatoes and brussels sprouts.

The gifts were received almost always with pleasant gratitude, but never with abject servility. Wonderful indeed is man, and surely only a little lower than the angels, when he can retain some dignity and self-respect in the slums of a modern city!

But when a few hours later the Christmas bells rang out, and in church, with its altar blazing with lights, the *Gloria in Excelsis* was sung by choir and people, I felt sick at heart.

Nineteen hundred and twenty-eight years had passed, and babies were still withering, and women were still greeting, and men were losing their manhood in dwellings, compared to which the stable at Bethlehem, with its ox and its ass, must almost have been paradise.

Men grown hard on a Christmas morn;
The dumb beasts by and a Babe forlorn.
It was very, very cold when Our Lord was born.

Men will be growing hard on Christmas Day, 1929.

A million of them are unemployed at this Christmas, loafing at the street-corner, losing heart. And babes are still forlorn and there is often no fire in the grate and threadbare clothes are on the backs, when Christmas weather is cold.

Dickens, who understood the spirit of Christmas, and indeed the spirit of Christianity, far better than most men, made Scrooge mark his repentance by providing a Christmas dinner for Tiny Tim, and many Tiny Tims this Christmas will have Christmas dinners because Dickens wrote the "Christmas Carol."

But the message of Christmas to the world will never be understood until social affairs are so regulated that Bob Cratchit will be able to buy Tiny Tim's Christmas dinner himself, and when there will be a sufficient dinner for Tiny Tim, not only on December 25, but on all the 365 days of the year.

Good will toward men.

How empty the words are so long as slums are tolerated, sweating continues, and men stand in the market-place with no man to hire them.

It is not true that these things must inevitably continue. Such an assertion is sheer blasphemy, an affront to God Who is the Father of us all.

It is said by the comfortable and well-to-do that the slum-dweller loves the slums and would be unhappy if he were compelled to live in decent conditions. That is a foolish lie.

New lives

In Somers Town, that drab district lying to the east of Euston Station, some friends of mine have been busy pulling down rat- and bug-infested hovels and building decent flats in which the same people are housed at the same rent.

My friends are practical people as well as Christians. When the furniture is taken out of underground dank cellars, and before it is put into the bright, well-ventilated flats, it is first fumigated to get rid of the bugs, and then it is blessed to get rid of the devil.

And the curious thing is that the devil is very effectively got rid of. In their new homes, these Somers Town people are living new lives.

The cherries and the pigeon and the ball that my friends have placed by the side of the Christ Child have taken the form of a bathroom, of modern sanitation, and of bright open spaces where the children can play without fear of being killed by a motor 'bus, and now of a model public-house.

Here is a successful but very limited attempt to express in practical terms "Good will toward men." And, of course, there are many other such efforts.

But the evil is gigantic and will only be cured, not when a few enthusiasts spend their time and money in the crusade, but when the nation generally is stirred by good will into a disgusted revolt against the stunting of the baby, the harassing of the woman, the degrading of the man.

Santa Claus will come down many chimneys this Christmas. There will be laughing children in thousands of happy, prosperous homes, and the children of the very poor will not altogether be forgotten.

In so far as Christmas does excite good will, so will it once more prove itself the finest and the greatest of all feasts.

But, alas! the good will is not very prolonged. With Boxing Day come bills, and on the day after comes work, and we are all once more absorbed in our own affairs till Christmas comes again.

The things that we know ought to be done are not done because politicians cannot agree and financiers emphasise difficulties, and the rest of us do not care.

So it happens that we tolerate the fact that many thousands of decent, kindly, well-intentioned men are doomed to a life which is—I use the simile in all reverence—a progress from birth in a manger through a stony valley of trials and humiliation to a practical Calvary.

We don't care!

There is no place for them in the sun, as there was no place for the Christ in the inn.

We are not cruel. But we don't care.

As "Woodbine Willy" wrote:

When Jesus came to Paddington
They simply passed Him by;
They never hurt a hair of Him,
They only let Him die.
For men had grown more tender,
And they would not give Him pain;
They only just passed down the street,
And left Him—in the rain.

A New Greeting for Xmas and the New Year.

KIA-ORA

Taken from the language of the Maoris in New Zealand, KIA-ORA conveys the double meaning of "Good Luck" and "Good Health." It is, therefore, the most suitable word for meeting, greeting and parting.

KIA-ORA Lemon Squash or Orange Squash increase the cheery atmosphere of your Christmas and New Year because with hot or cold water they make the best table beverages equally good at dances, children's parties and entertainments of all kinds. KIA-ORA Lemon and KIA-ORA Orange are just as welcome in the winter as in the summer.

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The GHOST at

by SIR EDWARD PARRY,

famous as a County Court Judge and a versatile writer

NOT only is truth stranger than fiction, but many wise and learned men are ready to accept fiction with childlike faith where they would regard the truth as offensive and impertinent. I had this story, in which I have given the characters assumed names, from Sapcote, the Chancery barrister, who was a great expert at drafting affidavits.

There is an old saying that "Truth will out, even in an affidavit." But this story was never in an affidavit.

It happened in the early 'seventies, when the courts sat at Westminster and the Master of the Rolls presided in his court in Chancery Lane.

Sapcote was living in New Square, close to Chancery Lane, and devilling for John Oliver Petchett, Q.C., a great patent lawyer in his day.

Petchett had considerable scientific and mechanical knowledge, and was feared and respected by expert witnesses.

In spite of his vast scientific learning—or, as some would say, in consequence of his mastery of material science—he was a firm believer in magic and necromancy.

He was a friend of many of the famous mediums of the time, and, in the company of other men of science, had tested their spirit-rappings and pronounced their messages from beyond to be genuine.

Sapcote cared for none of these things. He was a careful, plodding lawyer. But Petchett was a restless being, always in search of some new thing.

He had married rather late in life, and at the time of this story was living in Wimbledon, though he kept his rooms in his old chambers and used them when he was engaged in important cases.

His wife, Alice, was a daughter of Canon Aldin, of Canterbury. It had been thought that she intended to give her hand to the Rev. Eric Braithwaite, her father's curate, and Sapcote, who was an old friend and pupil of Petchett, knew that he was very jealous of the curate, and disliked his wife visiting her father.

IN the summer of 1870 Mr. and Mrs. Petchett went to America. Petchett was received in scientific, spiritualistic and manufacturing circles with great respect.

While at Milwaukee he had come across a wonderful invention and was enthusiastic about it. It was one of the first typewriters.

Like all great inventions, it had to fight against indifference and abuse. But Petchett believed in it. He brought home a Milwaukee specimen, one of the first seen in this country.

He tried to interest a famous medium in the machine. His idea was that spirits might be persuaded to use it. The medium said that the spirits refused to consider the idea.

Petchett, however, was convinced that some day they would overcome their dislike of the machine, which, after all, had something in common with the primitive method of communication by rapping.

The Milwaukee machine was not a great success, but a year or so later the Remington made its appearance in all its glory, and Petchett introduced it into Lincoln's Inn.

Sapcote disliked it for economic reasons. He saw that typed briefs would be less bulky than hand-written briefs, and feared that the fees would diminish in consequence.

This same fear hindered the typewriter being used in Lincoln's Inn and the Temple for many years.

At about that time Petchett had taken his wife down to Canterbury and had returned to stay in New Square to take part in the trial of a very important patent case at Westminster, in which Sapcote had a junior brief.

The two dined at "The Cock," and returned to chambers to work at the papers in the case.

AFTER they had read and studied the various letters and documents, Petchett sat down and typed a masterly synopsis of the argument he proposed to put forward and prove.

Sapcote said it was marvellous to see Petchett at these times, his brain and hands working together.

He had the same affectionate mastery over his Remington that a great pianist has over his Broadwood.

When he had finished his typing, he methodically put a new sheet of paper in the machine, which he always did, for he liked things ready for use.

Then he went to a bureau and produced two glasses and a bottle of rum. When he lived in chambers he always had a glass of rum and smoked one pipe the last thing before going to bed. At Wimbledon this libation and burnt-offering were not permitted.

Sapcote asked after Mrs. Petchett and the Canon, at whose house he had often stayed. Petchett immediately

ETHEL MANNIN,

who writes next week's True Story,

The Unremembered Years

began to grumble about the behaviour of that intolerable puppy the curate.

It appeared that he had been teaching Mrs. Petchett a new game that was to supersede croquet—a game of tennis played on the lawn with a net and rackets and a soft ball.

Petchett had tried the game himself with his sister-in-law as a partner against Mrs. Petchett and Eric Braithwaite. There were possibilities in the game, but it was not, he thought, a game for women. Once his wife had tripped and fallen into the curate's arms.

"Well, well," said Sapcote, "that might happen at any game."

"It shouldn't happen," said Petchett firmly; "and everyone laughed as though it were a huge joke. Even the Canon and Mrs. Aldin smiled. I don't know what the world is coming to."

Sapcote did not pursue the conversation, and after a moment or two Petchett knocked out his pipe and they lighted their candles.

"I wish I had brought Alice back with me," said Petchett.

"My dear friend," said Sapcote, rather shocked at the implication, "I have known Braithwaite for years. We were at school together. He is the soul of honour."

"He is a conceited puppy," said Petchett angrily, putting out the lamp.

They went upstairs in silence.

Mrs. Hosegood, their laundress, called them early, and they came down to breakfast punctually at eight.

They began discussing the coming case, and suddenly Petchett jumped up and went to the table to get a document necessary to his argument.

As he approached the table on which the Remington stood, Sapcote noticed that he started violently.

"Who has been fiddling with the machine?" His voice broke into a cry of fear and surprise. He pulled the paper out of the machine and took it to the window.

SAPCOTE followed him. Petchett was holding the paper reverently in his hand and staring at it in awe.

"It is as I thought," he murmured. "I knew that some day messages would come through on these machines. It was bound to happen. You are not a believer, Sapcote, but how can you account for this?"

He handed him the paper and Sapcote read: "Eric—Eric—Alice . . . Why not come home? Leave him and come home. Why not?"

Sapcote muttered something about Huckle, their clerk, but he had not arrived yet. Then he mentioned the laundress.

"As if she could work a Remington," said Petchett angrily. "Have you any other point to urge? You haven't by any chance been playing the fool yourself?"

Sapcote was indignant, but Petchett calmed him down.

"I was jesting," he said solemnly; "an ill thing to do in the presence of the Unseen. This is a message from beyond."

"But you can't believe——?"

"Anything against Alice? Certainly not. But against that fellow Braithwaite——," he paused. "Of course," he continued meditatively, "it may be the work of a mischievous or evil spirit. One never knows. Very probably."

HE folded up the paper and placed it in his pocket. They returned to the breakfast-table, and whilst Sapcote finished his breakfast, Petchett delivered a learned discourse on the ancientry of "black" and "white" magic and the deplorable prevalence of evil spirits in modern manifestations.

During the whole day in court Petchett was nervous and irritable. He never referred to the matter again.

After dinner they had a short talk about the case. Petchett, having adjusted a piece of paper in the typewriter, went to bed early.

When Sapcote came down to breakfast, Petchett silently handed him a paper with a longer but similar message upon it.

Sapcote could make nothing of it.

"I have, as you know," said Petchett, "no jealousy in my disposition. But it is my duty to my wife to join her. I ought to go to Canterbury."

But Sapcote was in alarm at being left in charge of the difficult case on which they were engaged. He begged and prayed of him to do nothing in a

the TYPEWRITER

Real Life Stories —by Famous Authors

"His blood froze. He stared in terror at the strange, ghostly being"

Illustrated by Edgar Spencley

hurry, but to remember his first duty, which was to his client.

He began to have a real belief in evil spirits, and assured Petchett that he was satisfied the message was their work and was a cheat, and he promised if Petchett would come down to his chambers he would sit up all night and keep watch over the machine.

That evening, before they went out to dinner, Sapcote asked Petchett to put a piece of paper in the machine.

When they returned from "The Cock" nothing had happened, and Petchett was very pleased that the spirits upheld his judgment.

He was now looking forward to the experiment of the evening with zest. These things often occurred in "threes" or else in "sevens," he told his friend.

AT bedtime they agreed that they should sit up in watches, Petchett taking the first watch until three in the morning and then calling Sapcote, who would sit up until the laundress arrived at seven.

At three Petchett wakened Sapcote and told him with a weary yawn that nothing had happened, and that as the dawn was so nearly approaching it was unlikely there would be any manifestations that night.

However, the two went down together and looked at the typewriter. Petchett advised Sapcote to sit on the sofa a few yards from the machine, with his eyes facing it, again assuring him that nothing would be seen, but at the same time thanking him for his kindness.

"Well, if the evil spirit does come back I shall be here to welcome him," said Sapcote bravely; "and you will be fresh for the morning and sleep all the better knowing I am here."

"I shall take a sleeping-draught to make sure," said Petchett, as he picked up his candle and went away, leaving Sapcote in the dark, sitting on the sofa with his eyes gazing in the direction of the Remington.

Sapcote had watched steadily, he said, for an hour and a half and nothing had happened; but he confessed he might have dozed for five seconds, certainly not more, when he became aware that the dawn was filtering through the laths of the Venetian blinds and that something was in the room.

He heard the click of the typewriter. He repressed a desire to shout aloud, and, opening his eyes with what he described as the courage of despair, he could distinctly see a shadowy figure, robed in white, sitting on a chair in front of the table, playing gently with his fingers on the keys of the Remington.

His blood froze. He stared in terror at the strange, ghostly being. It finished its work.

It rose slowly to full height and faced the window and the incoming dawn. It had whiskers. It wore a nightgown. It was undoubtedly John Oliver Petchett, Q.C.!

Sapcote's first impulse was to seize him by the arms, but it was clear that he was walking in his sleep and he feared that the shock might be harmful to him.

Petchett stole slowly through the door, Sapcote following him on tiptoe. He watched him reach his bedroom and disappear, and then he came downstairs.

He pulled the paper out of the typewriter, thrust it in his pocket, and carefully adjusted a clean sheet as before.

THEN he returned to the sofa and curled up for an hour's sleep.

When Mrs. Hosegood arrived she was astonished to find the said Sapcote asleep and partly dressed on the sofa. He explained that he had been working all night, but she only looked at the oil in the lamp and sighed.

He left her to her surmises and went upstairs to shave, whilst Mrs. Hosegood went to call her master.

When Sapcote came down to breakfast he found Petchett chuckling over a letter from his wife.

"You saw nothing this morning, of course?" he asked Sapcote.

Sapcote paused a moment and then said hastily: "There was nothing to see."

"I was fully satisfied that the message was from an evil spirit," said Petchett.

"But that fellow Braithwaite is an absurdly lucky fellow Alice tells me he is marrying Mrs. Creswick, the widow of that wealthy draper in Ashford, and the Canon has got him a fine living in Yorkshire.

"Didn't I tell you, Sapcote, it was an evil spirit?"

"We call it the stamina builder"

North Sea fisherman says "A good Quaker Oats breakfast puts new life into you"

THE galley of a Grimsby trawler in a gale is no place for elaborate cooking. Captain Hutton of the "Ranee" tells how fishermen rely on Quaker Oats for an easily prepared, sustaining, hot breakfast. "When you are out in the North Sea for a week or so at a time," he writes, "you have to have plenty of good, solid food to give you stamina. The finest standby is Quaker Oats. Lots of men in the fishing fleets here swear by Quaker Oats — we call it the 'stamina builder.'"

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The world's finest oats, grown and ripened under sunny skies. Perfectly milled by a special process. Nature's own delicious "sunshine" breakfast. Gives abundant energy, vitality, stamina.

No other food gives so much nourishment for so little money. Every kind of worker — hand or brain — benefits from having a Quaker Oats breakfast.

The quickest hot breakfast

A good, hot Quaker breakfast sustains, nourishes. Keeps out the cold and "stands by" you all day. Quaker makes all the difference to health and vitality — especially in winter, when the body requires *extra* warmth.

It's the "no trouble" breakfast. *Quick* Quaker, ready in 3 or 4 minutes, makes the richest hot breakfast the quickest and easiest to prepare.

Quaker Oats is easily digested, delicious, economical. No other oats have the same creamy "sunshine" flavour and goodness. Two kinds — Quaker Oats and Quick Quaker. Both made in Canada. Sold at all grocers' in two sizes — 4½d. and 9½d. per packet, except in the Irish Free State.

Quaker Oats keeps out the cold

Q.6.c.

Banish

CATARRH

this easy way.

Here's news worth £'s to any sufferer from Nasal or Bronchial Catarrh, persistent Colds, Coughs, 'Flu and similar complaints. Simply sprinkle 10 to 15 drops of Karsote (Brand) Inhalant on to a handkerchief and for a full 10 minutes inhale the fragrant vapours which arise. The effect is remarkable. Karsote is a powerful new Germicide which kills Catarrh germs in half the time other inhalants take and is the result of 18 years' laboratory and personal test on children and adults. It is most pleasant to inhale. Each inward breath you take carries purifying vapours to the furthermost crevices of nose, throat and lungs, searching out and destroying the evil catarrh-causing germs. All loathsome symptoms—stuffed up nostrils, mucus at back of throat, watery eyes, wheeziness and the like just melt away, and the inflamed membranes are soothed and healed. It seems like magic, but after using Karsote a few times each day for a few days you will find all discharge is stopped. Karsote contains 12 valuable ingredients, viz., the essential oils of Absinthe, Cinnamon, Citronella, Eucalyptus, Cassia, Lemongrass, Cedar, Red Thyme; Camphor, Menthol, Phellandrene and Methyl Salicylate and their actual germ-killing effect on catarrh-causing germs is shown in the magnified diagram (representing actual Laboratory tests) shown below.

Fig. 1.—Germs at commencement of attack.
Fig. 2.—Showing large increase in number of germs after 24 hours.
Fig. 3.—Less than ten minutes' exposure to Karsote Vapour has entirely killed the germs.

KARSOTE
BRAND
INHALANT 1/3 TRIAL BOTTLE 2/- FAMILY SIZE

Obtainable from all chemists, including Boots, Taylor's Drug Stores, Timothy Whites, etc. Trial Size, price 1/3. Family Size 2/- (contains double the quantity).

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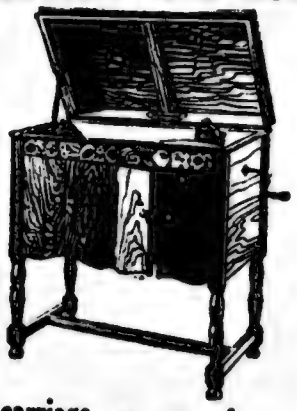

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Where is MY BOY *To-night?*

"Sailors don't care," although they may be far from home when Christmas fun is high

IT'S an old, old question, as old as the British Empire itself. Hundreds of thousands of mothers have asked it before and millions more will ask it again. It crops up every Christmas: "Where is my boy?"

Where?

Somewhere on the roof of the world, in the shadow of those gaunt Himalayan ribs which seem to push back the sky, the outpost is changing guard.

The silence of the lone Khyber Pass is broken by the tramp of heavy feet, sharp orders.

Old guard marches back, new guard remains, a muffled, solitary boy with a rifle to stamp up and down that hard mountain road in the cold.

The silence gathers about him again, and the moon riding high over the pass throws long, dark shadows over the near country where the peril lurks.

Young eyes and ears take up their long strain.

They will spend Christmas of a sort in that deserted outpost up there in the Northern District of India, guarding a bastion of the great Pax Britannica.

The 15/19th Hussars are stationed there this Christmas, with nine artillery units, an armoured-car company, and the 2nd Battalions of the Cameronians, Essex and Yorks and Lancs Regiment.

No 'buses runnin'

According to Kipling, "there ain't no 'buses running from the Bank to Mandalay," so the 1st Battalion of the Camerons and the 2nd Battalion of the Manchester Regiment, stationed in Burma, will be forced to spend their Christmas in this interesting country, where elephants do the wood-felling and generally balance the Budget on their trunks.

It will be very hot there, and the man who asks someone to pull a cracker with him might easily spend Boxing Day in bed unless all the regiment is prostrated by the sweltering heat after dinner—which is quite possible.

And in West Africa there will be no engineering done by the 36th Fortress Company, while the odds on the Ordnance going back to count pairs of trousers after breakfast are small.

We here in the heart of the Empire, however, should feel sorry that it is the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders who are guarding Bermuda for Christmas.

Beef alone in those parts costs 3s. a pound, whilst milk, which this famous regiment drinks in great quantities during Yule, is as high as 6d. per pint, and then only obtainable in small quantities.

The White Man's Burden lies heavy on many of our Forces in distant parts of the Empire.

What about the sailor boys on a day like this? Every mother's son in the uniform will be having a merry time, except perhaps in China, where active-service conditions prevail almost all the time. And, often, peril.

Up and down the wide rivers sloops will be creeping on the look-out for pirates.

Earlier in the day it is possible that all might be set for a quiet time. But a curt order from the flagship and the restricted jollifications must be cut short.

There's no time to be lost when the pirates are out, and no one knows what might happen in China—even on Christmas Day.

Not with holly

There is a big naval squadron standing by, anyway. The aircraft-carrier *Hermes* is there, with the cruisers *Kent, Cornwall, Berwick* and *Suffolk*.

Destroyers *Serapis, Seraph, Somme, Sirdar, Thracian, Sepoy, Stormbound, Sterling* are also on the look-out for trouble. And there are many sloops as well on the spot.

Still, the rest of the Navy should have a less thrilling and uncertain time.

The great Mediterranean Fleet will be based on Malta, where every Maltese lives a fervently patriotic life and retires from business early.

All ships will be decorated for the day. Not with holly, of course, because there is none on that barren island, but with palm-leaves.

It will be a thoroughly traditional Christmas there. In the morning, captains of ships with all their officers will visit the messes to fraternise with their men, and each officer, according to age-old custom, must carry away a gift from each mess.

In large ships these messes number no less than eighty, and the officers will go their round of visits wearing old caps. To carry away mixtures containing Christmas pudding, chocolate and ice-cake in one's cap is apt to spoil its lining.

In some ships the ancient practice may still be maintained of dressing up the smallest ship's boy for the morning in the rig of a chief petty officer, to behave and be obeyed as such.

Another ancient custom will certainly prevail in every ship throughout the fleet, and that is the placing of the portrait of everyone's best girl on the mess-table for mutual adoration.

The Navy retains its sentiments in matters like this with profound punctiliousness.

Children's parties

Other ships will be based on Calcutta, Simonstown, Bermuda and Australian ports, and even though the various climates endured in these places are not too kindly as aids to the digestion of rich fare, the national dishes will go back to the galley very sadly mauled.

The R.A.F. will spend Christmas in very much the same way as the Army, although in two places at least active-service conditions will prevail—Irak and China.

One thing is certain, however, and that is, wherever British sailors and soldiers are stationed for Christmas, the children will have a good time. Every mess throughout the services will have its children's parties.

It is, then, fairly safe to say that wherever a British lad is on Christmas Day he will enjoy himself in the way of our race.

And, wherever we go, we carry it with us as we do our flowers to plant in some foreign soil to keep our minds and hearts fragrant with thoughts of our small northern homeland.

A Blind FATHER CHRISTMAS

IN the little Devonshire town of Bideford there is a house where there lies a blind and completely disabled soldier. But the poor who live in the darkest slums and alleys of Hoxton know his name and speak it with respect.

For every year he sends quite a large sum of money to provide a Christmas dinner for some of the poorest in Hoxton, and also warm garments are sent by him from Bideford to clothe some of the little children of that congested area.

This man's name is E. Found. He is quite blind, and lies day and night upon his back, absolutely helpless and rigid.

• • •

Found was first injured in the leg in France in 1914, and was invalided home. Later he was sent out to the East, where he contracted fever. He suffers some pain nearly all the time, but after one of his feverish attacks it is much worse.

And yet this man, who could be excused irritability and bad temper, is uniformly cheerful; and his thoughts are occupied with the good he can do.

He lies there, smiling, listening for hours to the splendid wireless set with which St. Dunstan's has provided him.

• • •

He has a number of visitors, and, blind and helpless as he is, he has organised many of them into a corps of helpers, who bring him various articles for his annual sale of work to provide a Christmas dinner for the poor of Hoxton.

Each Easter, Found holds an "egg service" for the civilian blind of North Devon; and, each September, a harvest festival.

The Sign of a Good Apple

Canadian apples are available in this country from September to April. To be sure of getting them, look for the Maple Leaf price ticket as shown above —red background with green lettering.

Canadian Apples

BRITISH TO THE CORE

Twelve hours in the studio straight, and we're making a talkie at that! And we wouldn't be here this minute if the lights hadn't gone—would we Dodo? We're the world's workers, Dodo and I, and we simply live on Nestlé's these days–don't we darling?

NESTLÉ'S MILK CHOCOLATE

HALF-POUND BLOCK 1/-

Do you know Nestle's "Almond Queen"?—crisp crunch-b'e almonds in Milk Chocolate. Packed conven'ently in 6d. cartons.

A jolly good meal is ..... Schoolboy ... Pudding .....

(Very similar to Christmas Pudding.)

The boy can make it himself. Mixed in a minute. Take a 1-lb. jar of Robertson's Mincemeat, mix with three ounces of self-raising flour, place in a basin, steam or boil for 3 hours.

This will make a delicious and nourishing pudding. Just the thing for growing boys and girls. Remember—*it must be* ROBERTSON'S MINCEMEAT (" Golden Shred " Brand). This contains the exact proportion of each ingredient to make a very successful pudding.

Robertson's Mincemeat

GOLDEN SHRED BRAND

Also makers of the best Blackcurrant Jam.

APH. 4.

FLU! PAIN!

MUSTEROLE BRAND

MUSTARD OINTMENT

Stop the maddening, never-ceasing ache that accompanies flu—in a few minutes! Rub on this clean, white ointment. The tingling, soothing warmth penetrates deep down, draws out the inflammation, stops the pain. *At all Chemists.*

Musterole Fine Products Co., Ltd., London

Make your own Cigarette & see what you save.

ALWAYS USE A.G. CIGARETTE PAPER

BEST & PUREST

In the wine vaults of London Docks

Good Cheer from the UNDERWORLD of WINE

THIS is a Christmas story of spirits in great cavernous cellars and vaults, but spirits—and wine—in bottles and casks, not those creepy creatures of the imagination. You only see them when the cobwebs are reverently cleared from the bottle and the popping cork gives up the essence of cheer.

* * *

For a quarter of a mile ahead you can see the twin metal ribbons of the scantling run on through the dimness under low, broad arches, which appear like those of the crypt of an ancient church.

We are some 20 ft. below ground, in the greatest wine-cellar in the world. This is where rich wines from Portugal and Spain are stored in bond. These are the warehouses of the Port of London Authority.

These vaults were constructed at the end of the eighteenth century, and are a wonderful example of the builder's art.

Upon the low, fine arched ceiling—constructed entirely of brick—is a mass of fungus, hanging in thick, dark clusters, and practically covering the whole surface.

This fungus is formed by the evaporation of the wine, and is never removed. It does not form at all in the spirit vaults.

It is dark down in the wine vaults of London Docks. Here and there glimmers one of the sparsely-distributed lights.

Master of the lamp

Before we go into the vaults, we stop at the bottom of the stairway which leads down from the daylight world, at a counter, where presides an elderly workman of benevolent aspect.

He is the lamp-keeper. He hands each of us a lamp—a primitive affair, consisting of a flaring, smoking wick in a cup of oil at the end of a long wooden handle.

Equipped with these, we venture into this strange world of shadow. The air is charged with the heady odours of wine.

Other lamps are flickering here and there. They are the coopers, who are in charge of the vault. Down here in the cellars are coopers, Customs officials and labourers.

The cooper's job is to keep an eye on the casks. Each cask must be inspected—and there are thousands here. The cooper must see that there are no leakages and that no hoops have burst.

As soon as he detects a leakage of any kind, it is his job to repair the cask.

If the cask is stowed too high for him to reach, he has it " broken out of stowage " by labourers and brought to a lighter place where he can work on it.

Another job of the cooper's is to draw all samples required by the merchants. This requires great accuracy.

The coopers spend their days in this underground semi-darkness, but apparently with no ill results.

They go down into the cellars at eight o'clock in the morning, and stay there until 4.30, with an hour off for dinner.

They say that they do not suffer from rheumatism, and probably the strengthening vapours of the wine fortify them against the dampness of their workplace.

Also, they do not suffer from gout, that ailment traditionally associated with port.

Sampling

Two flat, metal lines of scantling are used for rolling the casks. Dim figures stir here and there among the casks, bearing their little lamps.

Suddenly there is a loud rapping as, with a large wooden mallet, a cooper knocks out the bung of a cask in order to insert a kind of a tin syringe, with which he draws up the wine and squirts it into a glass or sampling-bottle.

But there are not only vaults for port and sherry. Wines and spirits are imported into London from practically all liquor-producing countries.

Spain and Portugal send port, sherry, Tarragonas, Malagas, and Rioja wines; from France come clarets, burgundies, champagne and Saumur wines and brandies; the districts of the Rhine and Moselle forward their hocks and Moselles; the wines of Italy, Sicily, Madeira, Australia, Algeria, Africa are here.

Then there is rum from the Cape and from Jamaica, and brandies from many lands.

The list reads like some exotic poem.

The foreman cooper who takes you round these cloisters will point out the difference between pipes, hogsheads and quarters.

Mysterious passage

He will show you the mysterious, dark air-passage which runs round the entire vault—a passage so low one must crouch within it, stumbling cautiously forward by the glimmer of one's lamp, and expecting at any moment to hear the scurrying of rats.

There are little centres of light down in the vaults: a place where casks are repaired, for example; or a foreman's office where ledgers lie upon a high desk and scores of sample-bottles stand in ranks upon shelves.

Nowadays wine is not kept for such long periods in the vaults. In the old days merchants used to mature all their wine in the dock warehouses, but now it is found cheaper to let the wine mature in the country of its vintage; and so more and more the London warehousing vaults are used merely for storage.

A machine that bottles liquor at 100 dozen an hour

But even now there are sometimes wines which are held for ten years, and quite a quantity for two. On the other hand, a merchant may withdraw some of his stock after a few days.

It is different in the brandy vaults, where precious old cognacs lie slowly maturing into ever-richer fullness.

There is one great " piece " of brandy which has been there for fifty years. It holds 120 gallons, and when the merchant withdraws it from bond he will have to pay £500 in duty.

Not only does the Port of London provide the merchant with these ample warehouses where he may postpone payment of Customs and Excise duties until the goods are purchased by the retailer or consumer, but also there are facilities for blending and bottling of wines and spirits.

On the vatting floor one may see great vats which hold 5,000 gallons each.

Above these vats is another floor where the wine is poured from the casks into troughs, where it runs through a sieve into the vat below.

Spell of romance

Very often, after sampling various casks, a customer will request the importer to blend for him certain proportions of three different wines.

This can be done right on the dock, and then, if necessary, the wine may be bottled there.

In the bottling-room at the Port they are very proud of their new bottling-machine.

The bottles are filled by one apparatus, and then automatically corked by another. The machine can fill and cork 100 dozen bottles per hour.

Labelling is done on the same floor; but this is a hand process. A fortune awaits the inventor of a labelling-machine adaptable to any size of bottle and label.

Warehouses exist not only for the storage of wines and spirits; as one strolls along the busy ways of the water-front one may see upon the doorways of great, grey buildings the inscriptions, " Wool," " Ivory," " Spices," and other words which spell the romance of that far-flung adventure we call commerce.

It is a little world within a world, and not well known to many, this dim subterranean temple of the vine, where sturdy coopers move silently about their tasks like priests performing some mystic ritual of Bacchus.

You'll feel better when you've had a GUINNESS

GUINNESS FOR CHRISTMAS.

G.E.33.G.

"John Bull" Guarantee.

EVERY article advertised in "John Bull" carries with it a "money-back" guarantee.

All foods, food products, toilet preparations, medicines and drugs, and other articles capable of a laboratory test which have been approved by our experts are marked— In the case of medicines and drugs we guarantee that if they are taken or applied according to the directions they will have no injurious effects.

Naturally this guarantee applies only to manufactured articles, but every care is taken to satisfy ourselves as to the bona-fides of all advertisements in "John Bull." Any complaint must reach us within one month from the appearance of the advertisement in "John Bull" and in the case of dispute the decision of our Managing Director shall be final.

ODHAMS PRESS LIMITED, Proprietors of "John Bull."

Attack the cold meat with MILITARY zest

No half-measures about "Military." Its bright, cheery bottle goes to every place at the board. Eat it with cold meat, and you discover how fine cold meat can be.

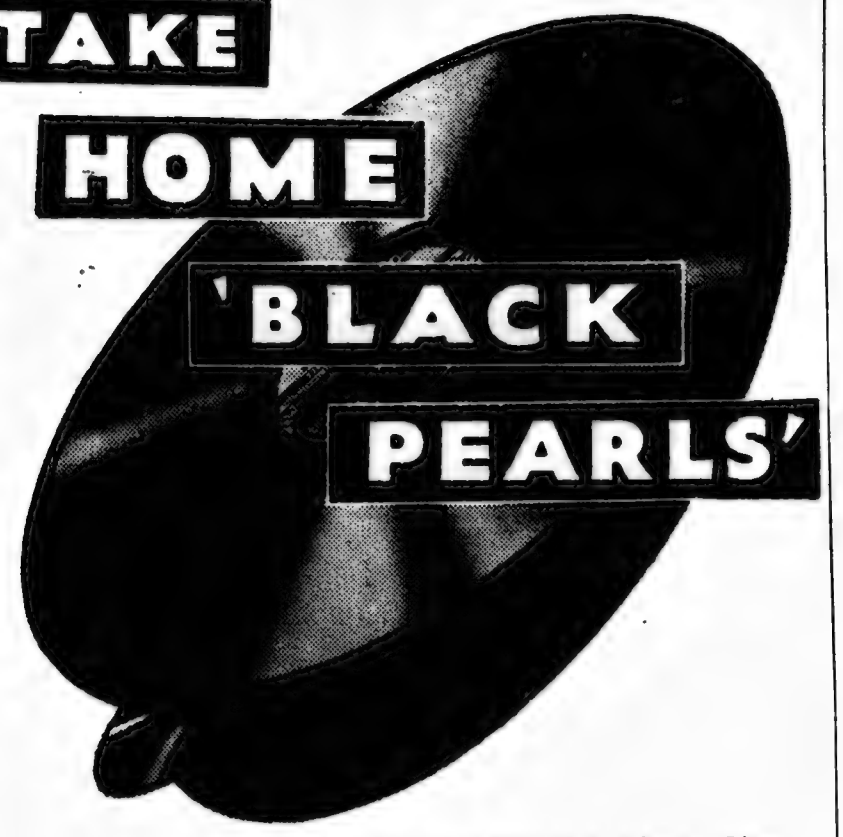
A bottle of "Military" is the handiest help-meat you can buy.

Haywards

MILITARY PICKLE

Of all Grocers 10½d. & 1/6 per bottle HAYWARD BROS., Ltd., Kennington, S.E.

TAKE HOME 'BLACK PEARLS'



Got many friends? Idea! Give them Decca Records for Xmas . . . Every one a Gem—a "Black Pearl." Look at the latest Decca list . . . choose those you *know* your friends will like . . . and this year

BE DIFFERENT

Send Self-Autographed Decca Records instead of Xmas Cards. They cost no more than a really nice Christmas Card, yet such a novel greeting cannot fail to please and your originality will be remembered long after Christmas.

Just write your greeting on the label and send a "message in music."

This year, "say it with Decca."

GEMS FOR YOUR XMAS PARTY

STAINLESS STEPHEN (Comedian)
F1579 Our Annual Pantomime

GEORGE BUCK AND HIS FRIENDS (Comedians)
F1587 Taking Home the Turkey

BARRY OLIVER (Light Vocalist)
F1568 The One In The World / Walking Around In A Dream

RHYTHM MANIACS.
F 1589 A Christmas Party
F 1588 Talkie Tune Medley

F1582 "Hollywood Revue" Medley
F1583 Is It Spain? *Fox Trot* / Underneath the Russian Moon. *Waltz*

THE CHENIL ORCHESTRA.
F1591 Echoes of Variety (Old-time Favourites)

All Blue Label 2/- each.

DECCA SUPREME RECORDS

NEW ELECTRICAL RECORDINGS

Send for complete list & name of nearest agent to: "DECCA" 1 & 3, BRIXTON RD., LONDON, S.W.9

FIRST

BECAUSE OF THE FILAMENT

RESULTS—

the final test of a radio valve will prove to you the supremacy of the P. M. Filament.

Mullard

THE·MASTER·VALVE

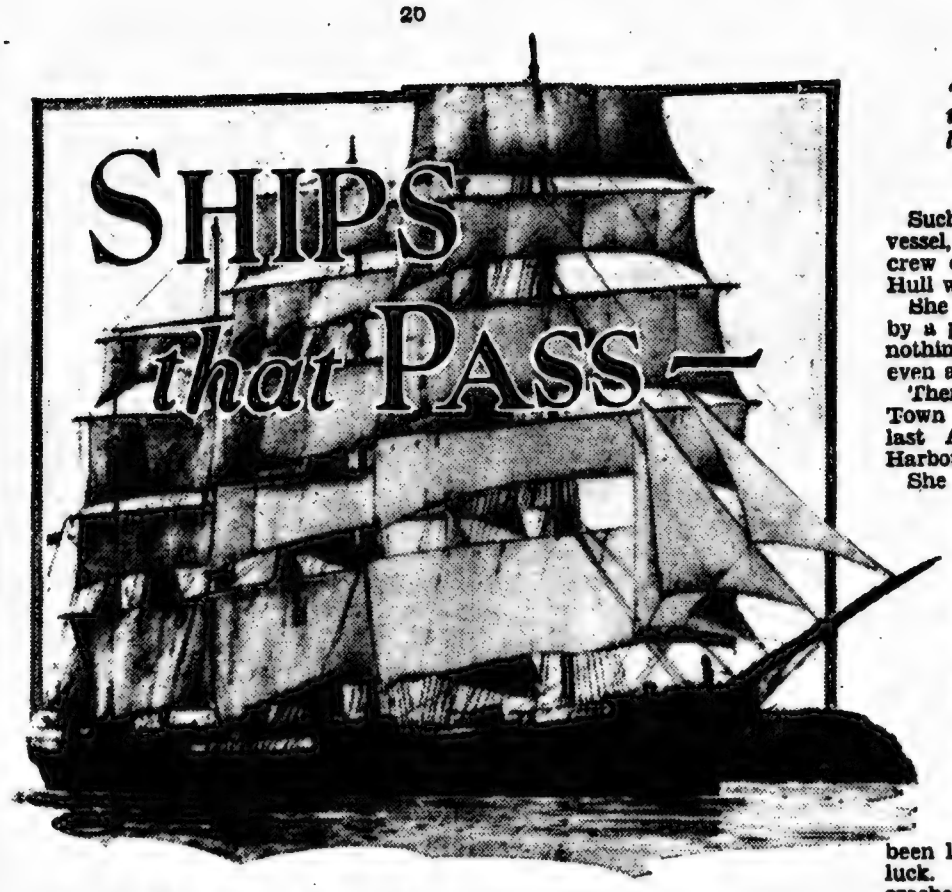
Ask for M.V.30

TO STOP A COUGH OR COLD QUICKLY.

Any doctor or chemist will tell you that there is nothing to equal Honey Syrup, Squills and Tolu for checking a cough or cold promptly. For many years these old-time ingredients have been effectively used and 'Pineate' brand Honey Syrup combines them in a form which gives wonderful ease and relief with the very first dose. This instant action is due to antiseptic pine fumes which pervade the chest and lungs, destroying harmful germs and soothing inflamed membranes, while pure Honey stops throat soreness and strain. Young and old alike find 'Pineate' brand Honey Syrup wonderfully effective. Get a bottle of this instant-action bronchial remedy to-day! It costs but 1s. 6d. at any chemist, and a few doses will completely overcome your cough, cold or sore throat, and prevent infection spreading to other members of your family.

H.P.

The Sauce for all Christmas Fare



" This tragic quarter has seen the loss of the 'Garthpool,' the last of the British sailing-ships "

Toll for the Brave of the Year that has Gone

EVERY quarter Lloyd's Register of Shipping issues its returns of ships totally lost, condemned and missing. It is a sober, matter-of-fact document in appearance; but what stormy tragedies it hides, and what deeds of unflinching heroism which can never be told!

Under the heading "Missing" are the ships which went out from port and from which nothing has since been heard.

Every year one may read the record of these vessels which have steamed or sailed bravely forth and then have been swallowed up in the mystery of that old ocean which often does not give up its dead nor reveal the secret of their dying.

At home, mothers, fathers, wives and friends anxiously await news. Day after day goes by, and still no movement of the ship is recorded.

The time arrives when it is scheduled to reach its destination—but still no word. Its wireless—if it has one—does not respond to the enquiries which are broadcast.

Then, as week after week passes, anxiety changes into fear, fear into terror, and terror into despair. And in the cold, hard lines of print in the Register the vessel is reported "Missing."

In the first three months alone of 1929 fifteen ships of various nationalities went to sea and then just simply disappeared.

Of these, four were sailing under the British flag. They were all steamers or motor-ships.

There was the *George Cochrane*, a tramp steamer, which left Sydney on January 20 last, with a cargo of coal for St. John's, Newfoundland. She has not since been heard of.

HER master, Captain G. Bragg, and her crew have been added to the dark roster of those who perished at sea in some unknown manner.

What happened to the *George Cochrane?* Did she founder through some leak? If so, what caused the leakage?

It could not have been a collision which caused her to go down, for the other vessel would have reported it.

Was there a smouldering fire, spreading like some red-breathed monster deep down amidst the coal she carried, caused by spontaneous combustion?

We shall never know. All we know is that, in the dry terms of the Register, she has "Not since been heard of."

Then there was the *Stream Fisher*, an iron and steel vessel which left Antwerp for the Tyne with a cargo of maize.

The last man to see her was the sea pilot, who said good-bye, as he had often done before, to her skipper, Captain Punchard, in the *Wielingen*, and then returned to Antwerp.

Since that hour she has not been seen nor heard of. And ten homes this Christmas will miss husbands, sons or brothers.

It was not a long voyage—from Antwerp to Newcastle—and the ten members of the crew undoubtedly all expected soon to meet their friends again in Newcastle, Gateshead, "The Shields," or one other of the numerous towns which lie close together about the banks of the river.

THERE was the British steamer *Teesbridge*, a steel vessel built in 1905. With a crew of thirty, she left Fowey with a cargo of china-clay for Philadelphia.

Twelve days after she was out a wireless message was received from her that she was in distress in longitude 41 deg. West, with two hatches stove in and her stokehold flooded.

Several vessels received a SOS message from the doomed ship and went in search of her. She could not be found, however, and at last the search was abandoned.

Sometimes we hear of a vessel missing which has been engaged only in the coastwise trade.

Such an one was the little motor-vessel, the *Wander*, which, with her crew of five men, left Yarmouth for Hull with a cargo of molasses.

She was seen the day after she left by a passing steamer; but since then nothing has been heard of her; not even a bit of wreckage as a clue.

There was the *Southern Sky*, a Cape Town whaler, which left Coal Harbour last April, bound for Prince Olaf Harbour in South Georgia.

She carried a crew of twelve and one passenger, a third mate of some other vessel, returning probably to rejoin his ship.

She was lost, as the Register says, "in the South Seas."

Sailors are superstitious, and the men probably had misgivings at sailing in a ship which carried thirteen souls.

Many ships are growing old and rusty—one, in fact, so rusty that when she laded a cargo of scrap-iron her bottom fell out.

Since June last there has been loss of life through fire and ill-luck. The Glasgow s.s. *Vimeria* crashed into an iceberg, was towed to Newfoundland by an Admiralty tanker, came across to Rotterdam, and blew up and killed several men.

During the latter part of September over a dozen ships were lost in the Bahamas hurricane, among which British vessels predominated.

One notable loss was the London steamer *Potomac*. She drove ashore and broke in twain.

This tragic quarter has seen the loss of the *Garthpool*, the last of the British sailing-ships, while the five-masted cadet ship *Kobenhavn* has also gone, missing with all hands.

One peril of the sea which could be avoided was tragically emphasised in October and November.

A DREDGER broke away from her tow on Strumble Head, and the crew were rescued after difficulty by a passenger steamer. A new dredger, bound for Suez, foundered off the Casquets. The dredger *Quincy* went down off Halifax, N.S., and the dredger *Grampus* sank in the north Atlantic, as also did the *Stephen* off St. Charles river.

These craft were never intended for sea voyages. Rather than add to the loss of life each winter, they should be transported oversea in sections.

These are some of the known grim tragedies of the sea. But of those others marked "Missing" on the list nothing is known.

Brave men went out and vanished for ever, leaving no sign nor whisper of their lot.

It is a sad list—the list of missing ships and missing seamen. But although we do not know what caused the deaths of these men, we may be sure they faced their lot with the courage of their kind.

Toll the bell for the brave who have not returned.

His £500 Christmas

" . . . he yelled out "

MR. CHARLES FREDERICK MARSH, of 31, Brompton Road, Rusholme, Manchester, read once again the letter telling him of his £500 win in JOHN BULL'S Crossword Competition No. 40.

Then he looked up. "It's still very difficult to realise that the money's mine," he confessed.

"Anyway, it's a very acceptable Christmas gift—and there's enough, too, for my birthday! I happen to be thirty-nine on December 27."

Mr. Marsh was at his work when our representative called at his home, and when his brother-in-law telephoned asking him to come home he thought his leg was being pulled.

Then, when he realised that it was true, he yelled out in his excitement, "I've won £500!"

• • •

"We shall all have a little extra jollification this Christmas, of course, and in my hour of good fortune I shall not forget 'The Greatest of These . . .' Fund."

the best gift yet

These illustrations are on a reduced scale.

The Platignum Fountpen Desk Set

5/- COMPLETE

There's nothing more appropriate -more acceptable

For you the Platignum Fountpen Desk Set is the end of your quest for the ideal gift—for the fortunate recipient the beginning of a life-time's easier writing.

Platignum Desk Sets provide large capacity, lever-filling Fountain Pen of famous Platignum make, ready to write at any moment. You simply take the pen from the swivelled socket where its nib is always moist, sealed against air when not in use—and write. Platignum Fountpen Desk Sets make writing easier—more pleasant. Give them this Christmas. You can buy them at your stationers 5/- complete. The perfect gift, the most useful present you can give yourself.

NOTE THESE FEATURES:

THE PEN. Platignum Lever self-filling model. Large ink capacity, barrel highly polished black ebonite with tapering end. Nib of non-corrodible Platignum metal, filling lever non-tarnishing.

PEN RECEPTACLE. Holds nib end of pen when not in use, seals it and keeps it moist and ready for instant writing. Only sufficient ink for writing needs can reach the nib point. Pen receptacle and pen can be swivelled to any angle or laid flat.

THE BASE. Of highly polished non-inflammable jet black material. Serves as pencil rack or pin or ash tray.

EXTRA DESK PENS.

These at 2/6 each have black or triple mottle barrels and tapering ends in range of mottled colours. Fine, medium, broad, oblique, or A.I. nibs fitted.

Your Stationer sells them.

If unable to obtain write

MENTHORE MANFG., CO., LTD.,

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HACKNEY, LONDON, E.9

Wonderful Records for XMAS

Every One a Gem! REGAL RECORDS Made by COLUMBIA

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ALPINE YODEL CHOIR

A Xmas Novelty!

Ask for REGAL Record No. G9429.

2/6

THE FIRST GIRL SOPRANO EVER RECORDED

EVELYN GRIFFITHS

The Child With the Angel Voice

"Daddy" & "Goodbye."

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Hear the OLD-TIME MINSTREL SHOW

A Worthy Successor to "Old-Time Music Hall"

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Another collection of eleven old songs of thirty years ago, sung by the Jolly Old Fellows. — G 9424 (2/6)

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"Lights Out"—in Two Parts. More Army Reminiscences by the "Roosters Concert Party." — G 9425 (2/6)

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Delightful Carols played by Charles Renard and Orchestra, with a Male Chorus. — G 9417 (2/6)

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Comedy Fox-Trots: Jollity Farm; and Bunkey-Doodle-I-Doh. Played by Hal Swain and His Band. — G 9440 (2/6)

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Actual size

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'PLUS TWO'

"Not a 'fag,' but a full-size cigarette"

16 P

to Asthma sufferers

instant relief!

Potter's Asthma Cure makes breathing easy, gives comfort by day and peaceful sleep at night. It works wonders in Bronchitis, Catarrh and Whooping Cough. *Best remedy for Bronchitis of Children.* Keep a tin handy. Entirely free from opiates. Of all chemists 1/6, or direct post free 1/9.

POTTER'S ASTHMA CURE

Send for Free Trial

of Potter's Asthma Cure, Smoking Mixture and Cigarettes, together with booklet "Are you Asthmatic?" which will be forwarded to all who write mentioning this paper and enclosing 2d. stamp. Address:—Potter & Clarke, Ltd., 60 Artillery Lane, London, E.1.

will be the last after a dose of

There is no better or quicker cure for all coughs and colds than Galloway's Cough Syrup. The first sneeze is a call for Galloway's, see that the call is not ignored.

Unsolicited Testimony.

Mrs. Forde, of 23, Broughton-st., Belfast, says: "I have been troubled with a bad attack of Bronchitis for some months and decided to try 'GALLOWAY'S COUGH SYRUP.' Before I had taken half the bottle I felt great relief. I continued, and now I am completely cured."

GALLOWAY'S COUGH SYRUP

Sold by all Chemists and Stores, price 1/3 & 2/6 per bottle or direct from J. H. GALLOWAY, Ltd., Chemists, London S.E.17, price 1/9 & 3/3 post free.

BLANFORD'S MARVELLOUS NEW "LEATHURMAC" RAINCOAT for 1/- DOWN

Try a "Leathurmac" Raincoat; it will keep you warm and dry. It looks and wears like real Leather. Made with real Indian fleece lining. This fleece lining is made fast to the Leatherette, so that the Coat is comfortable, and is guaranteed to be warmer than any other lining.

The Coat is well made, double-breasted, with deep storm collar and cuffs, belt, and deep pockets. Doubly stitched to ensure hard wear. Cut for comfort and ease. Every Coat is thoroughly tested before leaving our factory. The material used in this Coat is the production of one of the finest manufacturers of Motoring Coat materials. In colours of Tan, Red, Royal Blue, and Apple Green for Ladies and Girls, and in Tan only for Men and Boys.

Ladies' and Gent's price, 21/-. O.S., 46", 48", 50", 2/6 extra. Children's price, 16/6.

Send 1/- (no further payment is required until you have had the Coat one month), and agree to pay 4/- per month. Also send your length and chest measure. We can supply you with anything you want. Send Coupon or Postcard for our illustrated catalogues.

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HUMAN DOCUMENTS

After-Terror of a TRIAL Marriage

WHILE serving in the Army I laid the foundations of an edifice of trouble that now threatens to fall about my ears and bring my whole life to ruin.

Being very young indeed at the time, my station was "somewhere in England," and as an N.C.O. instructor, my duties took me constantly out of barracks and into the surrounding countryside.

One day, when in charge of a party of instruction in panoramic-sketching on a hill overlooking a village, I fell in with a pretty young woman who engaged me in conversation.

She was older than I, but out for a lark, and we were soon in the midst of a flirtation.

I learnt that her parents were dead, and that, alone in the world, she was living on a small annuity in a cottage they had left to her.

SHE invited me to visit her there for a meal, and this I very gladly accepted. Before long I found myself so regular a visitor and so much at home that I proposed marriage.

To my amazement she turned on me with a whimsical smile of intense amusement, saying: "You must be young if you believe in that old-fashioned stuff. People of broad-minded sense do not fetter themselves for life merely because they feel a strong sex-attraction for each other.

"In any case, one should always make the experiment of living together first in order to find out if it is possible to agree."

We lived together. Then I found she was fond of another man, and we parted.

Back in civil life, I dismissed the whole thing as part of the war experiences best forgotten.

Now I have become engaged to a good girl, and preparations are nearly complete for our wedding in the New Year.

It was while we were discussing this that the bomb fell. My girl is an orphan, but mentioned an aunt, a spinster, who would be delighted to act as her "mother" and would like my girl married from her home.

In proof she handed me a letter from the aunt inscribed "For the gentleman I am soon to call nephew."

It was from the woman I had lived with as "temporary husband," and consisted of just three words: "Do you dare?"

I know my correspondent, and nothing is more certain than that she is plotting to my shame and undoing.

The question is: What am I to do? for I love this girl who has given me her promise more than life, and would freely die to save her unhappiness.

"HUMANIST" says: Dying won't do that, but a manly attitude may. You must tell your betrothed the story of your entanglement, and trust to her forgiveness.

The probabilities are that the elder woman is acting from sheer mischief and would not do you serious harm. You must face her also.

Now, after the engagement has lasted two years, a friend of the girl's family has confided to me that the girl's father died in a lunatic asylum before she was born, that an aunt is confined in a mental home, and that several other relatives on the father's side are distinctly "touched," though not actually certifiable.

To make matters worse, there are traces of insanity on my side of the family. True it is a few generations ago; but the fact makes me anxious.

If I try to persuade my son that it is risking too much for him to marry into a family similarly afflicted, will he not conclude that my action is due to jealousy of another woman usurping my place?

"HUMANIST" says: All mental sickness is not of an hereditary kind, so tell your son what you have heard and advise him to get a medical opinion.

If your family doctor sees no danger to possible offspring in the union, well and good.

LOVE SENSE

or common-sense?

A WIDOW with an only son, although I love him dearly, I have tried never to be selfish in my love, or to put my own feelings and wishes before his happiness.

Thus, I have always schooled myself to look forward to the day when he should bring home a bride instead of resenting the thought of another woman entering his life.

When he became acquainted with a girl who sang in the same chapel choir as himself, bringing her home to tea and showing signs of affection, I was glad.

The girl was gentle and modest, and just the sort I would have chosen for a daughter-in-law.

A CRIPPLE'S *queer claim*

PARTIALLY paralysed all down my left side, I attribute this to the terrible hardships I endured as a child.

My mother was blind, and in order to make her case more pathetic used to drag me about with her in all weathers when she went begging.

The sight of us touched people's hearts, and she accumulated quite a lot of money.

This she invested and reinvested cleverly, and finally she left the street-cadging and started a business in which my father helped. It flourished amazingly.

From the moment we left the streets my mother took a dislike to me. I have heard her say the very sound of my voice reminded her too vividly of what she had gone through.

INSTEAD of giving me a job suited to my capacity, my mother hinted that my appearance hindered trade. Finally, she made it clear she wished me to clear out.

I left home in my sadly handicapped condition, but found it a terrible struggle to live. Such jobs as I am able to manage are not well paid.

Yet, in spite of this, a dear girl has responded to my love, and since we married we have been very happy. We have one little child and it is on her account that I now worry.

Recently my mother died, and my two elder brothers took over the business, agreeing to pay father a fixed weekly sum.

I approached my brothers, asking to be taken into the business, but they absolutely refuse.

Yet I contend that I have even more right to a share in the property than they. For, but for the money my mother gained by going begging with me in her arms, the business itself would never have been started.

"HUMANIST" says: If no will was left, the matter is in your father's hands, and your only remedy is through him.

Meanwhile, it is better to fight your own battles. Waiting on other people's money is a soul-destroying business.

THESE are problems of real life, and the solutions that "HUMANIST" proposes for them. One day you, too, will be up against a difficulty which you cannot face alone. "HUMANIST" will deal with it through the post. Send a stamped, addressed envelope. For the three most poignant documents published the Editor will pay £2 2s., £1 1s., and 10s. 6d.

Jock Rutherford's HOLIDAY FORECASTS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE—Div. I.—BIRMINGHAM v. Sunderland; Blackburn R. v. Manchester C.; Grimsby v. SHEFFIELD W.; HUDDERSFIELD v. Bolton; LEICESTER v. Burnley; Liverpool v. Arsenal; Manchester U. v. LEEDS; MIDDLESBROUGH v. Portsmouth; Newcastle v. Derby; Sheffield U. v. EVERTON; WEST HAM v. Aston Villa.

Div. II.—Barnsley v. Bradford C.; BLACKPOOL v. Swansea; BRADFORD v. Wolverhampton; BURY v. Cardiff; Chelsea v. Preston N.E.; Millwall v. Reading; NOTTS F. v. Bristol C.; OLDHAM v. Notts C.; TOTTENHAM v. Hull; Southampton v. CHARLTON; WEST BROMWICH v. Stoke.

Div. III. (South).—BRENTFORD v. Walsall; Brighton v. Fulham; Bristol R. v. QUEEN'S PARK R.; Clapton v. BOURNEMOUTH; COVENTRY v. Luton Town; MERTHYR v. Gillingham; NEWPORT v. Exeter C.; PLYMOUTH v. Crystal Palace; SWINDON v. Norwich City; Torquay v. Northampton; WATFORD v. Southend.

Div. III. (North).—BARROW v. Halifax T.; CARLISLE U. v. S. Shields; CREWE ALEX. v. Hartlepools U.; Nelson v. Accrington S.; NEW BRIGHTON v. Lincoln C.; PORT VALE v. Tranmere C.; Southport v. Darlington; STOCKPORT v. Chesterfield; WIGAN v. Rochdale; WREXHAM v. Rotherham U.; YORK C. v. Doncaster.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE—Div. I.—ABERDEEN v. Falkirk; AIRDRIEONIANS v. Hibernians; AYR v. St. Johnstone; CLYDE v. Dundee U.; Dundee v. PARTICK T.; HAMILTON ACAD. v. Kilmarnock; Hearts v. CELTIC; MORTON v. Cowdenbeath; QUEEN'S PARK v. St. Mirren; RANGERS v. Motherwell.

Div. II.—ALLOA v. Brechin C.; BO'NESS v. King's Park; Clydebank v. Arbroath; DUNFERMLINE v. St. Bernard's; E. STIRLING v. Queen of the South; Forfar v. Albion R.; LEITH v. Dumbarton; Montrose v. E. FIFE; RAITH R. v. Third Lanark; STENHOUSEMUIR v. Armadale.

DECEMBER 23 (Christmas Day).

FOOTBALL LEAGUE—Div. I.—ASTON VILLA v. Manchester C.; BLACKBURN v. Sunderland; BOLTON v. Burnley; Everton v. Sheffield Wed.; Grimsby v. Leicester; Leeds v. Derby County; Manchester U. v. BIRMINGHAM; Newcastle v. Middlesbrough; Portsmouth v. ARSENAL; SHEFFIELD U. v. Liverpool; WEST HAM v. Huddersfield T.

Div. II.—BLACKPOOL v. Chelsea; BRADFORD C. v. Reading; Bristol C. v. CARDIFF; BURY v. Preston N.E.; HULL v. Stoke; Millwall v. W. BROM. A.; NOTTS F. v. Barnsley; OLDHAM v. Bradford; SWANSEA v. Notts C.; TOTTENHAM v. Southampton.

Div. III. (South).—BRENTFORD v. Brighton; Clapton O. v. Swindon; Coventry v. PLYMOUTH; FULHAM v. Bristol R.; Gillingham v. BOURNEMOUTH; Luton v. NORTHAMPTON; MERTHYR v. Watford; NEWPORT v. Torquay; Norwich v. Queen's Park R.; SOUTHEND v. Exeter; Walsall v. Crystal Palace.

Div. III. (North).—BARROW v. York; CREWE ALEX. v. Wrexham; DARLINGTON v. Accrington; HALIFAX v. Lincoln; Hartlepools v. S. SHIELDS; NELSON v. Carlisle; PORT VALE v. Stockport; ROCHDALE v. Doncaster; ROTHERHAM v. Chesterfield; Southport v. Wigan; TRANMERE v. New Brighton.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26 (Boxing Day).

FOOTBALL LEAGUE—Div. I.—ARSENAL v. Portsmouth; BIRMINGHAM v. Manchester U.; BURNLEY v. Bolton; DERBY v. Leeds; Huddersfield v. West Ham; LEICESTER v. Grimsby; LIVERPOOL v. Sheffield U.; MANCHESTER C. v. Aston Villa; MIDDLESBROUGH v. Newcastle; SHEFFIELD WED. v. Everton; SUNDERLAND v. Blackburn.

Div. II.—BARNSLEY v. Notts F.; Bradford v. Oldham; CARDIFF v. Bristol; CHELSEA v. Blackpool; NOTTS C. v. Swansea; Preston N.E. v. Bury; READING v. Bradford; Southampton v. Tottenham; Stoke v. Hull; WEST BROMWICH v. Millwall; WOLVERHAMPTON v. Charlton.

Div. III. (South).—BOURNEMOUTH v. Gillingham; BRIGHTON v. Brentford; Bristol R. v. FULHAM; CRYSTAL PALACE v. Walsall; EXETER v. Southend; NORTHAMPTON v. Luton; PLYMOUTH v. Coventry; QUEEN'S PARK R. v. Norwich; SWINDON v. Clapton O.; TORQUAY v. Newport; WATFORD v. Merthyr.

Div. III. (North).—ACCRINGTON v. Darlington; CARLISLE v. Nelson; CHESTERFIELD v. Rotherham; DONCASTER v. Rochdale; LINCOLN v. Halifax; New Brighton v. Tranmere; S. SHIELDS v. Hartlepools; Stockport v. Port Vale; WIGAN v. Southport; Wrexham v. Crewe Alex.; YORK v. Barrow.

PLAYER'S PLEASE.

There are few in these days to whom a gift of cigarettes for Christmas is not acceptable. A handsome Decorated Tin containing 150 Player's Navy Cut Cigarettes can be obtained from any tobacconist at 7/3. Then there are similar packings containing 50 and 100 cigarettes, which cost 2/6 and 4/10 respectively. A flat pocket tin of Player's "No. 3" Virginia Cigarettes costs 3/4 and will give a lot of pleasure at a modest cost. For the pipe smoker such old favourites as Player's Navy Cut, Player's Navy Mixture and Player's "Airman" and "Digger" Tobaccos, provide a choice which cannot be excelled.

No more tea! No more coffee!

STOP ABSORBING DANGEROUS TANNIC ACID AND CAFFEINE!

NUTRAVITE

The new substitute for Tea and Coffee! A most delicious beverage.

NUTRAVITE is a nutty product, hence that piquant flavour and exquisite aroma.

All we ask is to try NUTRAVITE once, and tea and coffee will be eliminated from your diet.

NUTRAVITE is in granular form, rich in Vitamins, contains nothing injurious, and is prepared the same as tea or coffee.

Why are you nervy? Why do you suffer from giddiness, depression, disordered stomach, drowsiness, liver constipation, indigestion, sleeplessness? It's because you drink tea or coffee! Ask your doctor!

Extract from Black's Medical Dictionary:—"Tannic Acid when brought into contact with any mucous membrane constringes it and diminishes its secretion. It coagulates albuminous substances, and thus hardens animal foods with which it is mixed. When absorbed into the circulation it is changed into Gallic Acid. Tea poisoning is rather a vague but troublesome condition in which persons who drink too much of this beverage suffer from indigestion, palpitation of the heart, fainting, depression and extreme nervousness. As a food tea is valueless, and coffee almost useless. Coffee is rarely pure, but contains 50 to 90 per cent. of chicory."

COFFEE.—Very few people know that a cup of coffee contains nearly 2 grains of Caffeine and about 3 grains of tannic acid!

TEA.—Do you know that tea leaves contain about 10% of tannic acid and about 2% to 4% of caffeine? Just think of the amount of these virulent drugs you absorb during the year! No wonder you are always ailing and do not know the cause. Just stop drinking Tea and Coffee for a week or two and substitute NUTRAVITE, and note the wonderful improvement in your health.

STUPENDOUS FREE OFFER!

We will send a full sized 1/3 packet (30 cups) of Nutravite free to everyone! Send us your name and address with stamp to cover postage. Send to-day!

	1/3	3/-	5/- Packets
Cups	30	80	150 sold by

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ASSOCIATED NUT PLANTATIONS

(Cornhill Development Trust, Ltd., Proprietors.)

14, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, E.C.

ACCEPTABLE PRESENTS.

Messrs. W. D. & H. O. Wills have always been associated with a very high standard of quality. For the Christmas and New Year they have brought out two very handsome caskets, one in Mother of Pearl Inlay Style containing 100 "Gold Flake" Cigarettes, the other in Blue Leather design, containing 100 "Capstan" Medium Cigarettes, both at 5/- each. Their "Gold Flake" Special and "Capstan" Navy Cut Special Cigarettes in plain oak cabinets of 100 cigarettes and plain cedar cabinets of 150 cigarettes, at 6/3 and 9/- respectively will also make acceptable presents.

VENO'S Lightning Cough Cure

Don't sell your cough to your customers. Veno's soothes irritation, clears the bronchial passages, stops catarrhal discharge. The lightning relief for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma, all throat and lung troubles. 1/3 & 3/- per bottle.

A Tap that will not leak

If you take a pride in your home you will appreciate the annoyance caused by dripping water taps. The root of the trouble is the washer. Find a tap that eliminates the washer, and leaky taps are abolished.

That tap has arrived! The **L.V.** Washerless Leakless Tap embodies an ingenious new method of construction applicable to every class of tap. An indestructible, flexible cone replaces the washer. Tight screwing is unnecessary when turning the water off; the tap has proved leakless, and it costs no more than the old washer type.

Why not fill in the coupon below for particulars?

Obtainable from your local Ironmonger or Plumber, or in any difficulty send us name of nearest.

Send Coupon for full details

To:
THE LONDON VALVE CO., LTD., WHITEHALL RD., GREAT BRIDGE, STAFFS.

Please send me Illustrated Folder "J.B." giving full particulars of the **L.V.** *Washerless Tap.*

Name.....

Address.....

4 FAMOUS PRESCRIPTIONS FOR Backache

IN ALL ITS FORMS

No. 40 **For Backache with Muscular Rheumatism,** nothing is better than this tablet, composed of:—*Potas. Nitrate, Colchicum, Methylene Blue, Buchu, Venice Turpentine, Bearberry, Capsicum, Juniper Oil and Copaiba.* Dose.—1 or 2 thrice daily. Prices 1,9 (50), 2/6 (72), 4/6 (144).

No. 41 **For Backache, Associated with Constipation and Biliousness** we recommend: *Potas. Nitrate, Buchu, Bearberry, Venice Turpentine, Juniper Oil, Aloes, Calomel, Capsicum, and Charcoal.* Dose.—1 or 2 thrice daily.

Dose and Prices as No. 40.

No. 42 **For Backache with Nervousness and Indigestion** this is a prompt remedy. It is composed of *Venice Turpentine, Juniper Oil, Potas. Nitrate, Bismuth Carbonate, Soda Carbonate, Capsicum, Nux Vomica* and *Phosphorus* in suitable proportions. Dose.—1 or 2 thrice daily just before meals. Prices as No. 40.

No. 43 **For Backache, Anæmia, Thinness and Depression.** This wonderful prescription in tablet form, contains *Hæmoglobin, Lecithin, Red Bone Marrow, Nux Vomica, Capsicum* and *Potas. Nitrate.* Dose.—1 or 2 thrice daily after meals. Prices 1,9 (50), 2/6 (72), 4/6 (144).

THEY SAVE DOCTOR'S BILLS

These Prescriptions are obtainable post free from

MR. WILLIAM SHADFORTH,
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(Shadforth Prescription Service, Ltd.)
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FREE COUPON To Purchasers

TO THE SHADFORTH PRESCRIPTION SERVICE, LTD.

I should like to have a free copy of your Book of Prescriptions No. A209 with my enclosed order

Name .....

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John Bull Advt.

Something to sing about!

"BIRD'S Custard with stewed Prunes"

Serve it piping Hot.

C.411

BEFORE TAKING LEGAL PROCEEDINGS WITH REGARD TO YOUR ARREARS OF INCOME TAX, I SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF YOU HAVE A SUGGESTION TO MAKE

The answer's a YOUNGER!

MODERN life taxes a man in more senses than one, and he needs something to brace him up. He finds it in Wm. Younger's Scotch Ale, the ideal cold weather drink, which, whatever "Pussyfoot" may say, is as good for the system as it is pleasing to the palate.

William Younger's Scotch Ale

Brewed in Edinburgh

The beer with a bite in it.

Safety First!

2oz. IN THE POUND ALWAYS

"... Safe as the Bank" JOHN BULL 24 March 1928

BET WITH THE BIG TWO

Letter Commissions accepted from 1/- up to any amount, and if forwarded in accordance with our Rules.

"YOU ARE ON"

DAVID COPE & ALFRED H. MAURICE LTD

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NATIONAL HUNT SEASON

NO LIMIT—Win or Place.

DAILY SETTLEMENTS—WINNINGS BY RETURN.

FOOTBALL

TEN LISTS.

6 Leagues, 5 Leagues, 4 Leagues, etc.

NOTHING BARRED IN ANY LEAGUE OR ON ANY LIST.

Send for the CHALLENGER CREDIT COUPON for fairest odds combined with ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

Our Letter Parliament: My Best Example of the Christmas Spirit

IT was two days before last Christmas, and the bailiffs had taken possession of the furniture of a woman living in our little village.

It seemed as though she and her children were destined to spend Christmas in the workhouse, when an old man, noted for his terribly miserly habits, came along and paid the bailiffs about £10 in cash.

He went off cursing and calling himself every kind of fool, and appeared to be genuinely sorry for what he had done

He must have been touched by that feeling of "good will to all men."—*Tot, Pyle.*

Mother

Every Christmas a small circle of friends join with us in the festivities. The turkey and pudding are perfection, and the place is beautifully decorated.

No one pauses to wonder who is the cause of all this. A silent figure hovers around, seeing that all are enjoying themselves.

When the meal is cleared, games are started, and so engrossed are we all that we forget the figure, now in the kitchen cheerfully washing dishes, and preparing things in readiness for the next meal.

That figure is my mother, and she is my best example of the Christmas spirit.—*N. T., Mumbles.*

The Covered Spot

A pal of mine was badly wounded about the face, which is terribly disfigured. He rarely goes out during daytime as everybody seems to stare at him.

We give a Christmas tree for the children, and for the last ten years he has acted as Santa Claus.

He says it is the one day he enjoys, as the make-up he adopts covers his face, and he can romp with the children without anyone staring at him.—*James Devlin, Maryhill.*

The Bobby's Joint

Last Christmas I offered the constable on point duty opposite my butcher's shop a sum of money as a Christmas-box, which he refused, but suggested a joint.

He gave me an address, saying, "Don't forget, sir, there's a large family."

Months afterwards I found that the address he gave me to which I sent a splendid joint was not his, but the home of an unemployed man with a family of five.

This he had done to other tradesmen who had approached him, none of whom thought the addresses given by him were other than his own.—*Henry Miller, London, S.E.*

—But Not Forgotten

It was Christmas Eve, and two shabbily-dressed little girls were anxiously peering into the window of a toy-shop.

There were many things there that they would have liked to buy, but by overhearing their conversation I learned that their joint capital was only threepence. At last, after a whispered conversation, they entered the shop.

"A threepenny Santa Claus, please," said the elder.

"Going to hang it on the Christmas tree?" asked the assistant, laughingly.

"No miss," was the serious reply; "it's for our Elsie's grave."—*Joseph Miller, Sheffield.*

Hidden Hand

A certain well-to-do man doffs his well-cut clothes, and, garbed in fustian, pays visits to a certain slum area in Birmingham just before Christmas.

He observes the most pressing needs of those he calls upon, and regularly on Christmas Eve forwards to those people the articles that will best supply their wants.

He was born and bred in that slum, and he never forgets the hard lot of the slum-dwellers.—*W. J. Flatman, Handsworth.*

ORIGINAL letters upon the subject below, not exceeding 100 words, are invited, as also are letters on any topic about which you feel strongly. 10s. will be paid for each letter published. Mark envelopes "Letter Parliament." Letters must reach us by Monday, December 23.

My Plan to Make the Roads Safe

Two-word Cable

Through my war disability, blindness, I have been unable to find employment. On Christmas Eve I received a postcard to call at Midland Bank.

I was given ten dollars and a cable of two words, "Merry Christmas." It was from a chance acquaintance.—*W. J., St. Helens.*

A War Wife

During a halt on the march into Cologne, just before Christmas, we were billeted in an old barn.

Not satisfied, three of us set out in search of better quarters. We were heartily welcomed into the home of an old woman. Of course, we told her not to expect any payment.

When retiring for the night, to the most wonderful bed we had seen for months, we found our hostess preparing a bed on the floor in another room.

She was a German whose husband and four sons were killed at the front.—*Ex-Scots Guardsman, Renfrew.*

If Politicians Would

Conceive the unanimous approbation consequent upon the announcement: "Parliament will meet on Boxing Day, to suggest and decide upon immediate and practical means of solving unemployment and other problems.

"N.B.—All discussions to be on a purely non-Party, non-political basis."

The man who could convene such a gathering would show the right "spirit," and the Parliament that responded would work wonders.—*G. Williams, Rhondda.*

Santa Will Call

At a miner's house, after a long spell of short time, an envelope was dropped in the letter-box containing a few shillings and a note worded: "Hoping you will have a cheery Christmas.—From a Friend."

That strengthened the children's belief that Santa Claus would not pass them by.—*Ever Grateful, Hucknall.*

Lucky Goose

Several years ago, whilst serving as a policeman, I had, just before Christmas Day, to arrest an unemployed labourer for stealing a goose.

The owner of the goose, learning that the man had stolen for his children, bailed out the thief, gave coal, oil, food, a Christmas-tree and presents, attended court and asked for the charge to be withdrawn, and put the man into a job.—*A. V. Bedford.*

In the Hospitals

What better example of the Christmas spirit can we find than that shown by the staff in our hospitals?

They spare no thoughts for themselves or their pleasures, but days before they plan how they can brighten up the lives of the sick for the festive season and give them some enjoyment.—*X. Y. Z., Bucks.*

Bachelor's Party

He's a bachelor of fifty, a clerk without kith or kin. His salary is about £4 a week. He saves and scrapes all the year around.

Each December he quietly discovers needy families, and on Christmas Eve gives a party.

Grown-ups receive useful presents, and there's a tree and a bran-tub for the kiddies, too. It costs him about £40, but oh! how he enjoys it.

His only motive is to make others happy. I wouldn't know of it but that he hires the hall from me.—*Caretaker, Wallasey.*

Over the Wash-tub

The woman about whom I write is a widow, without pension.

Yet, as Christmas time comes, she scrapes together her coppers (hard earned at the wash-tub), and makes toys and "snowballs" for the kiddies who are not so well off as she is herself.—*Lily Spencer, Leytonstone.*

Nips

We were out of work, and my companion had threepence. He saw an old, white-haired man, looking very miserable. Without a word, my friend broke the bank.—*G. W., Glasgow.*

A poor woman, the wife of a labourer with six children, knowing of a destitute neighbour, cut her joint in half, shared her vegetables, and sent a tiny engine and doll for the two kiddies.—*R. S., London, N.*

I was cycling on Christmas morning to visit relatives, when I had a puncture. Two boy scouts towed my bicycle to my destination, whilst I went by 'bus.—*F. Ismay, Lewisham.*

I am an invalid cripple, and have to use a bath-chair. Last Christmas Eve a poorly-dressed woman placed a penny in my hand. She evidently thought I was begging.—*F. G., Dewsbury.*

I know a landlady who selects the tenant whom she thinks worthy of her generosity. Then, just before Christmas, appropriate gifts pour in to that family from an unknown source.—*G. Doran, Walsall.*

Race with "Silver Ring"

The *Sporting* Spirit

MY mail-bag this week contains a little gem from one of the fair sex, who writes: "As your early selections are usually successful, and I am anxious to have a few doubles on the Lincoln and Grand National, I thought of Lionhearted and Toy Bell for one pair. What could you suggest?"

The lady's sporting spirit is to be commended, but at this stage I am on the side of the "angels who fear to tread."

At starting-prices, last year's double worked out at 10,000 to 1. This does not inspire one with a super-abundance of confidence with which to tackle races three months before they are to be run.

However, I answer all correspondence, and I have sent Vatout, Six Wheeler and Caballero, all of which are entered for the Lincolnshire, and are likely to be reasonably weighted.

* * *

I was a bit premature about the "National." The entries will be published early in the New Year; but one can safely say that Easter Hero, Duke of Florence, and Richmond II. will be in the list, and I have added this trio to the Lincoln horses.

Of the three, Duke of Florence is the most interesting horse, for he is being trained on the same lines which all but proved successful in the case of Easter Hero last March. Carrying welter weights, he is romping home in maiden hurdle handicaps.

On January 1 the "Duke" will be a nine-year-old, the age at which a 'chaser can be considered to be at his best.

Jenkinstown, the one-eyed Glenside, Jerry M., Poethlyn, Music Hall, Double Chance and Jack Horner, seven of the last 16 winners of the great 'chase, captured the spoils when nine-year-olds.

Floods, frost and fog permitting, we can enjoy some good racing at Lingfield this week. I anticipate success for Cratloe, Golden Rain and Lacock.

"JOHN BULL'S" CODE

The code for this week is as follows. It covers the racing from Thursday, December 19, to Wednesday, December 25, and will then be revised.

Q	N	T	U	A	S	3	2	E	F	W	D	P	Y	C
R	Z	L	H	I	9	K	O	J	M	V	G	X	B	5

In place of the Code letters printed in the *Sporting Life* read the one above or below, as the case may be. D2JI9B would read GO EASY.

"SILVER RING."

THEIR Christmas Pudding

IT is high time "The Greatest of These . . ." Fund made its Christmas pudding, for it has an overwhelmingly large and very hungry family to feed. Its size and richness must depend entirely upon the generosity of our readers, to whom we plead for the fruitful will our pudding be in good works.

We must have eggs to be beaten out of your subscriptions to provide nourishment for the kiddies; and, of course, the milk of human kindness.

Then there must be heaps of currants. These will be depicted by your gifts in boots and shoes of all sizes. Almost every letter we open tells the same tale: "My children have no boots to go to school in."

The suet, which is a body-warming food, will be aptly represented by your gifts in clothing, blankets, etc., which are non-existent in some homes.

The sugar, candy-peel and spices may well be shown by gifts of toys.

A Christmas pudding needs stirring, and our readers must bestir themselves to send quickly all they can.

following ingredients:

First, we need pounds of plums. These will be represented by your gifts of £ s. d. The more plums we get, the more "The English people," says Mr. G. K. Chesterton, "really do shine, among the nations of Christendom, with the truly Christian flame of charity."

We think, when such a pudding is served, the angels will want to sit down to it; and the Babe, Whose nativity Christmas celebrates, will surely smile with glee.

(All acknowledgments unavoidably held over)

£550 Awarded in "John Bull's" Crossword Competition No. 41.

No correct solution was received for "John Bull" Crossword Competition No. 41. *A solution containing one error only was received from:—*

Mr. H. Pearson, 23, The Terrace, Pleasley, Derbys,

to whom, subject to the conditions of the Competition, a cheque for £500 *will be dispatched.*

Solutions containing two errors only were received from the following 33 *competitors, who share the Second Prize of* £50, *each receiving* £1 10s. 4*d*.

Barnett, J., 4, North Drive, Wavertree, Liverpool.
Blower, H., Standeford, Wolverhampton.
Boycott, N., 15, Woodside, Coalbrookdale.
Burton, E. C., 288, Oxhill Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.
Carey, Mrs., 14, Winchendon Road, Fulham, S.W.6.
Dewhurst, R. C., "Roma," Willoughby Avenue, Cleveleys, Nr. Blackpool.
Dyson, F., 7, Harrop Terrace, Middleton, Manchester.
Evans, P., Green Farm, Wentnor, Bishops Castle, Salop.
Farrow, F. R., 31, Salisbury Street, Middlesbrough.
Garbutt, A., 7, Smith Street, Bury.
Golding, Miss E., 17, Commercial Rd., Grantham.
Green, Miss E., 31, Chubworthy Street, S.E.14.
Hughes, T., 10, Beach Street, Swansea.
Lines, A. J., 16, Lowther Street, Newmarket.
Lund, S., 11, Grange St., Barnoldswick, Nr. Colne.
McCormick, A., 153, Waddell St., Glasgow, C.5.
Milford, F. E., 29, Queen's Square, Bristol.
Pearson, N., 2, St. George's Terrace, Sheffield.
Percival, J., Shepcroft, Stretton, Warrington.
Pittam, A. E., 71, Coton Road, Nuneaton.
Pitts, P., St. John's College, York.
Polson, M. E., 246, Allison Street, Glasgow, S.2.
Prynne, S. H., Garth House, Pontlottyn, Glam.
Smart, W., 39, Croall Place, Kelty, Fife.
Smith, A., Upper Wanford, Alvah, By Banff.
Stopard, Mrs. F., 71, Kenpas Road, Coventry.
Taylor, Mrs. L., Derwyn, Little Neston, Neston, Wirral.
Thomason, Miss E. A., The Cedars, St. Helens Road, Leigh, Lancs.
Trevett, F. W., 29, Iona Street, Edinburgh.
Upsdale, Miss F., High St., Droxford, Nr. Bishops Waltham.
Walker, W., 8, Nepean Grove, Tyne St., Hull.
Watmough, F. J., 4, Plumstead High St., S.E.18.
Weir, Mrs. J., Smiths Place, Plains, By Airdrie.

Another £500 X-Word appears on Page 32.
TRY YOUR SKILL NOW!

SEND NO MONEY. 7 DAYS' FREE TRIAL.

You can test this wonderful NEW & IMPROVED

VITA-PHONIC SOUNDBOX

FREE at our Expense. The results obtained by this new design of the famous VITA-PHONIC Soundbox far exceed the first pattern so successfully introduced by us a year ago. We are so confident that it will please you that we will send it to you on 7 days' free trial. The improvement in tone over ordinary soundboxes is immense, and the Vita-Phonic will make the smallest portable instrument sound like an expensive cabinet gramophone.
Fill in the coupon below and get the full benefit of the beautiful music on your records straightaway.

Call and hear one yourself.

Irish and Foreign Orders Cash only.

Cut this Coupon out and post TO-DAY.

Please send me on 7 days' free trial your New VITA-PHONIC SOUNDBOX.
I promise to pay after 7 days 3/- and 5 weekly payments of 2/- (making 13/-), or 10/6 cash, or return in good condition. State if soundbox slips over or into tone arm. Cross out which does not apply.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

Write plainly in pencil.
UNIVERSAL SALES CO. (Dept. O. 23),
Mitre House, 177, Regent Street, London, W.

To get the best results use
VITA-PHONIC
Loud or Medium **NEEDLES**
with your Vita-Phonic Soundbox. This combination will give you results far superior to any you have conceived possible before. One needle will play ten records; a shilling box plays 1,000. 1/- per box or 5 boxes 3/6 post free. Cash only.

TEST CICFA FOR INDIGESTION THIS XMAS FREE

Do you dread Christmas, with its many meals and rich foods? This year take Cicfa and eat generously of what you like without fear! If you have not tried Cicfa, avail yourself of this Special Offer of a Free Xmas Test Supply, using the Coupon below.

In almost every British home Christmas signifies feasting. To all too many persons, however, anything approaching feasting means a torturing bout of Indigestion, very possibly followed by embarrassing and dangerous Constipation. **Both can be banished by Cicfa.**

EVERYONE SHOULD TAKE CICFA AT CHRISTMAS TIME.

Even if your digestion is generally good, Christmas, with its round of social engagements, its foods of great variety and richness, its prolonged meals taken at unaccustomed hours, its eating away from home and "nibbling" between meals, places a severe strain upon the digestive system. If you are subject to occasional attacks of Indigestion, Christmas is the season when you most desire to be free, but are most likely to be attacked.

Do not let Christmas catch you unprepared without a supply of Cicfa. It is your safeguard against ill after-effects, following a free indulgence in the good things so lavishly provided. Do not feel "out of it" by refusing dish after dish.

Take one or two Cicfa Tablets immediately you start to eat and you will be able to eat what you like.

Many so-called remedies, such as Ginger, Peppermint, Sodas, Pepsin and Stomach mixtures are at best mere palliatives; they may or may not remove the symptoms, *but they certainly do not touch the cause.*

CICFA is sold by all Chemists and Stores, price 1s. 3d. & 3s.

Read the Explanation

Cicfa is so marvellously efficacious because it provides exactly the digestive ferments necessary for perfect digestion of even the richest foods, throughout the Alimentary Tract.

No matter how severe the bout of Indigestion, the very first dose of Cicfa brings relief and begins a process of "re-education" of the digestive organs. Not only does Cicfa provide at once the ferments essential for perfect digestion in both Stomach and Bowel, but it encourages and stimulates a natural and sufficient flow of the necessary digestive juices, so that the root-cause of Indigestion is surely and gradually overcome.

Cicfa has received the endorsement of thousands of doctors who regularly prescribe it, hundreds of whom have privately written us of the excellent results obtained by its use.

YOU CAN THEREFORE COMMENCE TAKING IT WITH IMPLICIT CONFIDENCE.

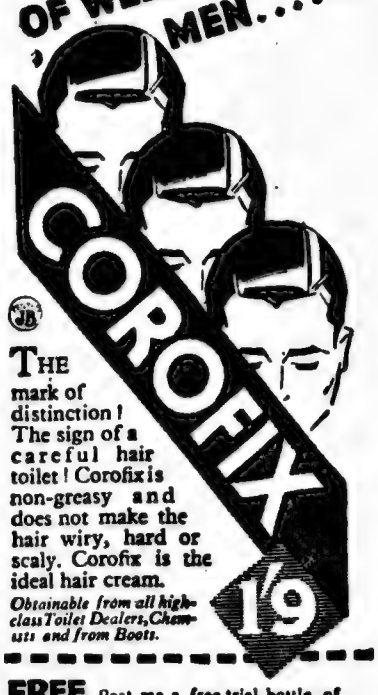
Get a tube of Cicfa from your Chemist to-day. If you prefer to test it free, post the Coupon below, enclosing 1½d. in stamps, with your name and address.

COUPON for Free XMAS TEST of CICFA

Only one sample to each family.

THE CICFA COMPANY
8, DUKE ST. MANCHESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W. 1.
"John Bull" Dec. 21.

A Christmas Thought. Here's a simple little Gift idea. The famous "KENSITAS" Cigarettes—real Virginia—manufactured by the "Kensitas Private Process"—can be obtained uniquely packed all ready for posting. They are obtainable in two sizes—the flat tin containing 100 "KENSITAS," 4/10, and the curved tin containing 50 "KENSITAS," 2/6. Cigarettes are always acceptable, and the "KENSITAS" idea spares you the trouble and worry of packing. You simply just address and post.



THE mark of distinction! The sign of a careful hair toilet! Corofix is non-greasy and does not make the hair wiry, hard or scaly. Corofix is the ideal hair cream.

Obtainable from all high-class Toilet Dealers, Chemists and from Boots.

FREE Post me a free trial bottle of Corofix. I enclose 3d in stamps to cover post and packing.

NAME.....

ADDRESS .....

.....

The Crown Perfumery Co. Ltd. 8
Cunard Building, Liverpool. EXT-240

STOPS DIGESTIVE PAINS.

However chronic your digestive troubles have been, you can end all suffering to-day. This statement is not exaggerated—thousands of one-time indigestion sufferers endorse it—and the remedy is simple, safe, sure and speedy. After eating, or when pain is felt, take a little 'Bisurated' Magnesia, which gives immediate relief and removes the cause of the trouble by instantly neutralising excess stomach acid and stopping food fermentation. Pain and discomfort promptly disappear, the acid-inflamed lining of your stomach is soothed and healed, while the disturbed digestive processes are restored to normal, healthy activity. Doctors and Nurses recommend 'Bisurated' Magnesia, and use it in hospitals because it is a genuine stomach remedy. Get a 1s. 3d. package of 'Bisurated' Magnesia powder or tablets from your chemist to-day. You, too, will find it unequalled for ending indigestion in any form.

BE KIND TO YOUR RECORDS

Use only

SONGSTER
GRAMOPHONE
NEEDLES

PRICE **6** D. PER BOX

Made By J. STEAD & CO. LTD., SHEFFIELD.

Spread yourself out on winning

John Bull's £500

must-be-won X-Word

An extra £50 for runners up!

"JOHN BULL" will pay £500 for a correct solution on one Form of JOHN BULL Crossword No. 44 appearing below. Failing a correct solution, the prize will be awarded to the reader whose entry is the nearest correct solution. An additional £50 will be divided between those competitors whose solutions contain one error only, or only one error more than the winning solution. Every reader has an equal opportunity. For this two-week contest only, each competitor may send in two sixpenny double entry forms—one of which may be taken from this week's JOHN BULL and an additional one may be taken from next week's JOHN BULL. No claims required. No entries accepted after Thursday (noon), January 2nd.

Don't run the risk of being late — Fill in and post your Coupons early.

YOU'RE on a big thing, get down to it at once! £500 must be won this week by simple crossword skill. Stretch out for this grand prize and don't let yourself be cornered. Here is an all-square opportunity which will put you on your feet. Be right in it—and more power to your elbow!

Solution of puzzle will be published in JOHN BULL on sale Thursday, January 9th. Winner will be given in JOHN BULL on sale Thursday, January 16th.

Result of JOHN BULL X-word No. 41 appears on page 31.

Closing Date, Thursday (Noon), January 2.

Clues Across.

1. Propels a steamer.
5. To proceed energetically.
9. Often carries letters.
10. On behalf of.
12. Gives temporary relief.
14. Scheme.
17. Pointed head.
18. Dash.
20. Donkey.
21. Favoured animals.
22. Violence indicated here.
23. A pair.
25. Pig house.
29. One leads to many.
30. One who interferes.
33. Brewer's cart.
35. Road-hog thinks little of.
36. Employ. 37. Expire.
38. Don't marry one.

Clues Down.

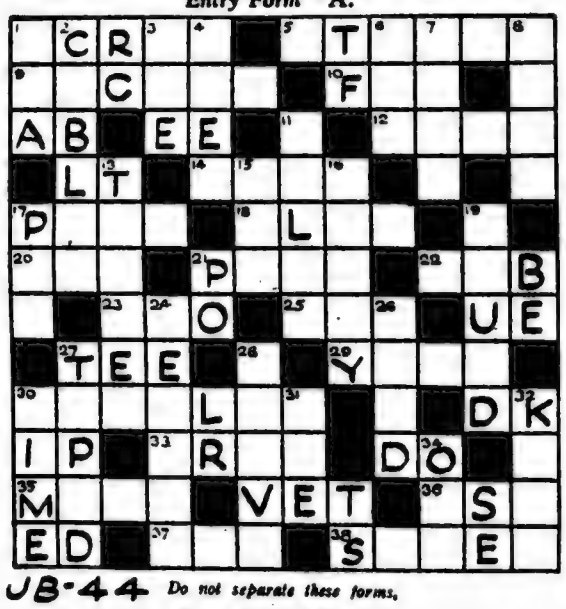
1. Health resort.
2. Seamen handle these.
3. Extend. 4. Cry.
6. A bar. 7. Metal.
8. Always.
11. What nervous horse does.
13. Tried.
15. Sheltered side.
16. Describes taste.
17. Reimburse.
19. Whole.
24. Married.
26. 3 feet.
27. Luke-warm.
28. Move. 30. An actor.
31. Cereal.
32. Had knowledge.
34. Possessive pronoun.

Chambers's 20th Century Dictionary and Nuttall's Dictionary (latest edition) were used in compiling this puzzle.

CUT HERE

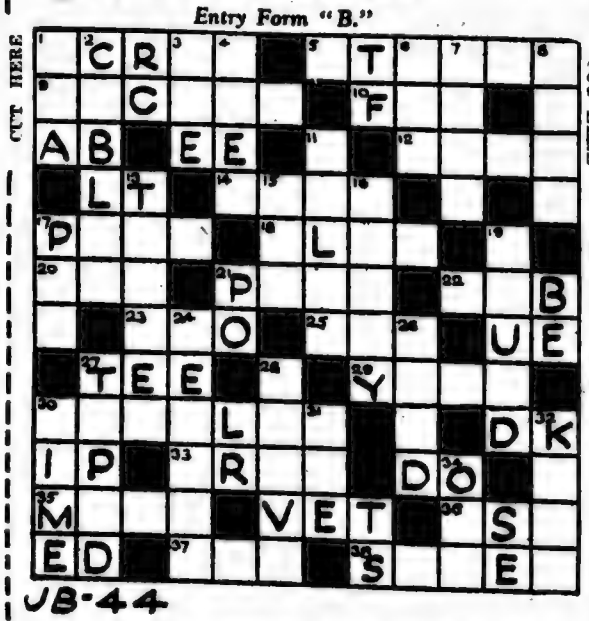
"JOHN BULL" CROSSWORD No. 44.

Entry Form "A."



JB-44 *Do not separate these forms.*

Entry Form "B."



JB-44

CUT HERE

In entering this Competition I agree to abide by the Editor's decision as final in all matters appertaining thereto and enclose P.O. No..... value .....

These Entry Forms must not be separated.

N.B.—Enclose 6d. Postal Order for one double-entry coupon, or 1/- Postal Order if sending TWO double-entry coupons in accordance with Rule 1.

SIGNED .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

Closing Date Thursday (noon) January 2.

CUT HERE

N.B.—Cut the above Form out complete.

If taking advantage of the special opportunity (for this two-week contest only) of making two entries as above, Postal Order for 1/- must be enclosed.

Entry **MUST** be sent by post.

2. Postal Orders must be made payable to Odhams Press Ltd. and crossed —/& Co./ and the date of sending the order, complete with the name and address of competitor, must be written on the back. The number of the Postal Order must be written in the space provided in the Entry Form. Stamps cannot in any circumstances be accepted.

3. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for any Coupon lost, delayed, not delivered or mislaid. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery and no correspondence will be entered into.

4. In the event of a tie the £500 prize will be divided between those competitors whose coupons are correct or contain fewest errors, but no competitor shall receive more than one share. Competitors should note that errors are computed according to the number of words which incorrectly answer the clues given.

5. Mutilated or altered Entry Forms will be disqualified. Solutions must be complete and filled in on Entry Forms provided.

6. **For this two-week contest only, each competitor may send in one double-entry form from this week's "John Bull" and one double-entry form from next week's "John Bull." Not more than one double-entry form allowed from each week's "John Bull."**

7. The correct solution of the puzzle is known only to the Editor and will be kept under seal until all entries have been received.

8. The result of this competition will be published in the issue of JOHN BULL on sale **Thursday, January 16th.** Any competitor who claims to have sent in a solution which is identical with the published solution or contains as few errors as the competitor announced as the £500 prize-winner may have a scrutiny by demanding the same by or before first post, **Tuesday, January 21st,** after which date the prize-money will be dispatched and no claim will be considered.

9. If such demand is found to be correct the result will be amended accordingly and any competitor demanding a scrutiny must accept as final the result of such scrutiny as certified by the Editor.

10. Every request for a scrutiny must be made by Registered Letter only and must be accompanied by a remittance of £5, which will be returned to the competitor if his claim proves valid.

Request for scrutiny must be addressed to:—**The Competition Editor, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2.** Envelopes should be marked "Scrutiny" in top left-hand corner. All applications must be accompanied by a copy of Entry Forms and number of Postal Order. No claims for scrutiny can be entertained in connection with the additional award of £50 cash, the winners of which will be finally decided according to the result of our careful searches of all entries.

11. Entries for this competition must not be enclosed with "Bullets" entries or other correspondence addressed to JOHN BULL.

12. The Editor's decision is final and legally binding in all matters relating to this competition, and acceptance of this condition is an express condition of entry.

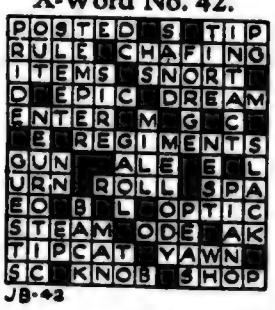
13. Employees of Odhams Press Ltd. and members of their families are not allowed to compete.

14. Failure to comply with any of the conditions involves disqualification.

Read these Rules and Conditions Carefully.

1. Fill in puzzle opposite **IN ORDINARY INK,** not copying ink or copying-ink pencil, sign your name and write your address in BLOCK CAPITALS. Cut out coupon, place it with a Postal Order value sixpence in an envelope bearing 1½d. stamp and post to **"John Bull," Crosswords (No. 44), 57, Long Acre, London, W.C.2 (Comp.),** so as to reach us not later than noon, on Thursday, January 2nd.

Solution of "John Bull" X-Word No. 42.



JB-42

Result will be published next week.

The solution of "John Bull" X-word No. 42 is given herewith as matter of interest to our X-word competitors. We wish to emphasise that no claims are required for this X-word as all entries are being carefully examined by our staff.

When you have completed this Crossword try a "Happy X-Word" in "The Passing Show," Friday, 2d. £100 First Prize, £25 for runners-up. THREE attempts for your 6d.

Write to "John Bull" about it!

The EDITOR Replies

A. P. D. (Bolton).—"Late last Christmas Eve I lost my way and asked a man to direct me; but he wouldn't say a word." Snowmen are usually rather aloof

THE Editor may be flippant on this page, but his humour is never malicious. He likes to end up the week's work on a bright note. Serious questions are dealt with by the expert staff of our Free Advice Service

T. C. (Deal).—"Domestic servants are very unobservant." They don't take notice, but they know how to give it.

B. M. (Otley).—"A professor has discovered 21,000 different kinds of public annoyances." So that makes 21,001.

G. J. (Dorking).—"Smokeless fuel will soon be universal." Let's hope this applies to some of those Christmas cigars.

D. S. (Burnley).—"Why do editors always return my articles?" Perhaps because they read them.

S. R. (Burton).—"When my play is produced the box-office will be stormed." Before the show—or after?

Miss P. (Inverness).—"Who says it is unhealthy for ladies to wear long hair?" The hairdressers.

W. W. (Bursiem).—"I took steps to recover my money." And did you catch the bookmaker?

P. R. (Bury).—"Some people are all wrapped up in themselves." Especially contortionists.

H. H. (Windsor).—"A man is soon forgotten after he is dead." Not if you marry his widow.

P. B. (Sheffield).—"My wife made me all that I am." It's cowardly to put the blame on a defenceless woman.

D. S. (Edinburgh).—"Fancy giving a man fourteen days for stealing a pair of bellows." Perhaps he only did it to raise the wind.

R. B. (Hither Green).—"There was a lot of trouble over the matter, but I stood by my wife." Did that give you courage?

H. M. (Derby).—"I play the piano solely by ear." That's nothing. Our office-boy says he can play it with his nose.

D. T. (Salisbury).—"As a rule fat men are honesty itself in business." Most of them certainly find it difficult to stoop to anything low.

CHESS-LOVER (Bungay).—"I hear that the recent chess championship has been filmed." It should make a real thriller in slow motion.

ALARMED (Merthyr). — "Old Moore makes some terrifying predictions. Can you imagine what is coming to us at the end of this year?" 1930.

B. M. (Richmond).—"My typist asked me if she could take a day off on her birthday." She had probably taken a few years off without asking you.

M. R. (Bow).—"The best sort of Christmas greetings is in solid form." Agreed, though we never raise objections to something in the liquid line.

S. L. (Falmouth).—"What is the good of a roof-garden on a theatre?" It enables leading ladies to grow their own bouquets.

H. Y. (Grays).—"I hear that one of the new motor-cars comes to pieces before being garaged." And so do some of the old ones.

C. R. (Colchester).—"Women live longer than men." Especially widows.

S. T. (Barry).—"Two women will always quarrel over a man." But why drag in the man?

H. M. (Llanelly).—"The doctor said I was run down and must have sleep." Did he give your wife a draught?

J. H. (Deal).—"This letter is unbiased, unselfish and unaffected." Also undated, unsealed and unstamped.

K. G. (Frome).—"The enclosed cheque is just to show my feeling towards you." We have endorsed your feelings.

BERTIE (Cambridge).—"What is the best way to make a peach cordial?" Take her to dinner and follow with a theatre.

A. L. (Kingston).—"I enclose my latest portrait. Don't you think the moustache improves my appearance?" Well, it hides some of your face.

Miss P. L. (Taunton).—"Do you remember that tie I knitted for you last Christmas?" Yes, but we have decided to let bygones be bygones.

R. D. (Chester).—"I shall not be able to give my friends any cigars this Christmas." Did your cabbage crop fail this year?

H. D. (Grimsby).—"In a cross-country race last Saturday I just managed to keep ahead of the other runners." Not every referee is as lucky as you.

H. I. (Brixton).—"I was only doing about forty miles an hour when suddenly the car turned turtle." And you found yourself in the soup?

HISTORIAN (Prestatyn).—"Old documents found recently prove definitely that it was a Welshman who first discovered America." Then we owe Columbus an apology.

J. S. (Ryde).—"My doctor tells me I am suffering from brain fag." The flatterer!

MARY P. (Newcastle).—"On what day of the week will the resurrection day fall?" Well, at most boarding-houses it falls on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

ALEC (Perth).—"Have you ever tried a haggis?" No, but if we did we should certainly inflict a heavy sentence.

HUBERT (Newbury).—"I'm sure I'd be a success on the stage." After seeing your picture, we recommend scene-shifting.

H. A. P. (Brighton).—"What is responsible for the enormous consumption of cigarettes in this country?" So many people smoking.

B. B. M. (Bolton).—"I don't need an office-boy; I do all the work myself." We'll recommend ours to you—you'd just suit him.

R. C. (Burton).—"When's the best time to approach one's girl's father?" When he's wearing his slippers and got his teeth out.

JASMINE (Barnes).—"Women are far more tenacious than men." They certainly stick to the same age a mighty long time.

A. C. (Templeton).—"My father taught me never to grumble." Well, what are you grumbling about?

N. E. (Brixton).—"I've just painted a picture on our bathmat." We know a poet who wrote a long poem on a haddock and a cup of weak tea.

SOCIALIST (Oldham).—"After working thirty years in a warehouse my friend has become an M.P." He's certainly earned his rest.

S. W. (London, W.).—"Winter styles are here." One season a woman's waist chokes her, the next it trips her. What have we now?

J. K. (Belfast).—"I want to introduce a Bill for the feeble-minded." Still another modification of our marriage laws?

T. M. (Pevensey).—"I've formed a splendid resolution for the New Year. Do you think I will keep it?" Yes, until January 1.

J. B. G. (Coventry).—"Every cloud has a silver lining." There'll be no clouds if you win the *Bullets* £500 on page 35. And remember—the 100 Hampers also offered have a *golden* lining.

A. T. (Preston).—"I've sent you thirty poems this year." Your poet's licence should be endorsed for exceeding the screed limit.

P. T. (Clapham).—"A fashion-writer says that the waistline will be at the waist this season." Those fashion experts do get some revolutionary ideas at times.

E. D. (Stairfoot).—"As soon as my wife presents me with a son, I'm going to give her one hundred pounds." C.O.D.

F. T. S. (Bayswater). — "My doctor's operation failed to disclose the collar-stud I'd swallowed." Looks as if you'll have to buy a new one.

L. B. (Taplow).—"Life in Japan has its advantages." Yes—the earthquakes rock baby to sleep.

H. D. (Birmingham).—"It takes nine tailors to make a man." And one dressmaker to break him.

R. S. (Selkirk).—"Civil war has broken out again in China." That's the first time for three days.

B. T. (Pimlico).—"Should women play Rugby football?" Why not? It makes a pleasant relaxation for them between the bargain sales.

F. S. (Sydenham).—"What is a road-hog?" He is a motorist who speeds up every time you want to pass him.

H. S. (Croydon).—"A scientist predicts that in ten years' time there will be no servant-girls." He appears to be just ten years behind the times.

ELSIE (Pimlico).—"I am pretty, young, and I want to marry a man of substance." We know a bachelor who should suit. He's pretty old, and weighs eighteen stone.

Mrs. R. (Stoke).—"Women drivers never ask for more than a quarter of the road." But every minute they take a fancy to a different quarter.

F. J. (Kilburn).—"There is little prospect that inflation will be resorted to again." Although, of course, our politicians will continue to blow each other up.

(Many replies unavoidably held over)

Side-Slips

Examples of genuine unconscious humour from the current Press are welcomed. Obvious printers' errors not wanted. Actual cuttings must be sent. 2/6 is paid to the sender of each item published. Mark envelopes "Slip."

CUMBERLAND EVENING NEWS:—"So far as GIRTH and SURROUNDINGS were concerned she was a lady of social position."

BUCKS EXAMINER:—"The cake, CONTAINING ten candles, was made by Mr. J. Holland."

IDEAS:—"So 'e takes it and reads with TREMBLING EARS."

ANSWERS:—"It was with a GASP OF RELIEF that the BELL beside the fireplace trilled."

LLANDUDNO ADVERTISER:—"Personal.—The many friends of Mr. —— will be pleased to know that the serious operation has been UNSUCCESSFULLY performed."

EVENING CITIZEN:—"Motor driver wanted, to drive Ford lorry, FURNITURE SHOP and Morris saloon."

WEEKLY TELEGRAPH:—"This gives a lot of trouble to the smaller jewellers who still rely upon the old-time microscopic test for detecting REAL from GENUINE jewels."

EVENING WORLD:—"An ash-tray for 2s. 9d. and a note-case at 2s. is another way of spending the FIVE SHILLINGS for a man."

NURSERY WORLD:—"FOR SALE, BOY, about four years, warm brown coat, excellent condition."

BEDFORDSHIRE AND HERTFORDSHIRE PICTORIAL:—"The case was a sequel to a collision between defendant's cart and a motor-cycle, in which the LATTER was injured and had to be taken to HOSPITAL."

AMPLION

£4 = 10 In Oak

Mahogany . . £4 . 17 . 6

THE Amplion A.B.6 is a balanced Armature Speaker of great sensitivity and exceptionally fine performance. Its rendering of the high notes is firm and clear, while Musical critics commend its full rich reproduction of the lower frequencies. As its impedance can be readily adjusted to any one of three values it will give its best results in combination with almost any type of valve set. No special Transformer needed with Pentode valve.

Graham Amplion Ltd., 25/26, Savile Row, London, W.1. Works: Slough

18 MODELS FROM 21/-

JOHN BULL'S Sensational Xmas Gift to every Reader

John Bull's Xmas Gift Voucher
This Gift Voucher will be accepted as One Shilling in part payment of either the "John Bull" Lever Filler 5/- Pen guaranteed for 5 years) or the "John Bull" "Junior" 3/6 Pen (guaranteed for two years) Only one Voucher will be accepted in part payment for each pen. Available only until December 31, 1929
1/-

YOUR LAST CHANCE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

NOTE. — The Pen and Pencil are packed in a dazzling golden box of special design, forming a most handsome Golden Gift.

Readers who wish to make sure of receiving "John Bull's" Sensational Gift—the most popular ever offered—in time for Christmas, should post their Gift Coupons without a moment's delay. Last chance before Christmas! Don't be too late!

OFFER No. 1

(1) **7/6 GILLETTE "MAYFAIR" DE LUXE PRESENTATION SET,** containing a genuine gold-plated Gillette Razor, complete with blade in handsome case.
(2) **2/6 HANDSOME SILVER-PLATED "EVER-POINTED" PENCIL** complete with extra leads.
(3) **A SHILLING XMAS GIFT VOUCHER** (see above), accepted in part payment of the famous 5/- "John Bull" Lever-filler Pen, fitted with 14-ct. Solid Gold Nib, Iridium tipped, guaranteed for 5 years, acknowledged to be worth 12/-.

For this magnificent Christmas Gift Package you need only send 4/-, plus 6d. to cover postage and insurance.

OFFER No. 2

(1) **A GILLETTE "MAYFAIR" DE LUXE GOLD-PLATED RAZOR** (as above).
(2) **A NICKEL-PLATED "EVER-POINTED" PENCIL** (as above).
(3) **A SHILLING GIFT VOUCHER** accepted in part payment of the 3/6 "John Bull" Junior Lever Filler Pen, fitted with 14-ct. Solid Gold Nib, iridium tipped, guaranteed for 2 years.

For this magnificent Christmas Gift Package you need only send 2/6, plus 6d. to cover postage and insurance.

Decide NOW which Three-fold Gift you will accept. Cut out Gift Voucher, attach to Coupon below and post to-day.

JOHN BULL'S XMAS GIFT COUPON.

To "JOHN BULL" PEN DEPT., 85, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

Please send me your three-fold Xmas Gift Package as follows:—

(CROSS OUT PACKAGE NOT REQUIRED).

Xmas Gift Package No. 1, consisting of the famous 5/- "John Bull" Pen; the Free 2/6 silver-plated "Ever-Pointed" Pencil, and the Free Presentation Razor Set. Please accept Gift Voucher as One Shilling in part payment of the Pen. I enclose Postal Order for Four Shillings plus sixpence to cover Postage, Packing and Insurance, 4/6 in all.

Xmas Gift Package No. 2, consisting of the popular 3/6 "John Bull" Junior Pen; the Free "Ever-pointed" Nickel-Plated Pencil, and the Free Presentation Razor Set. Please accept Gift Voucher, as One Shilling in part payment of the Pen. I enclose postal order for 2/6, plus 6d. to cover Postage, Packing, and Insurance, 3/- in all.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

Pocket Clip and Tube of Pencil Refills **6d.** extra. Fine, Medium or Broad nib (cross out grades not required.)

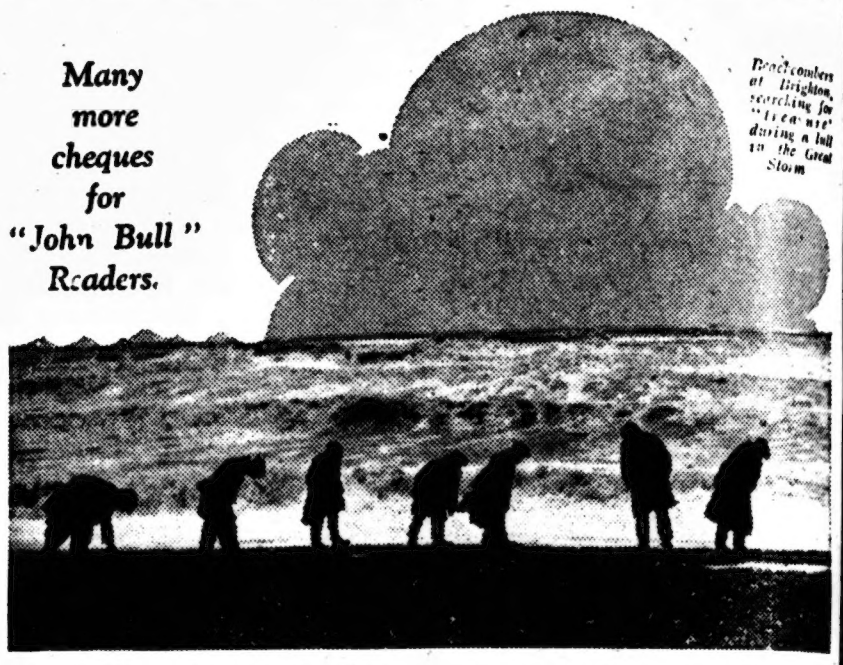
Your name engraved in gold on Pen **6d.** extra. Write in CAPITALS name or initials desired.

.....

Cross cheque, p.o. " / & Co. / " and make payable to "John Bull." J.B. 21/12/29.

After the Storm!

Many more cheques for "John Bull" Readers.



Beachcombers at Brighton, searching for "treasure" during a lull in the Great Storm

DURING a lull in the Great Storm — the worst that England has ever known— "beachcombers" have been busy at seaside resorts searching in the shingle for coins and other objects cast up on the beach.

But hundreds of JOHN BULL readers have found far more valuable treasure after the storm and flood—namely, generous cheques paid by JOHN BULL—the ONLY paper to pay Storm and Flood Benefits.

Those who have registered for our Great Free Insurance Gift have been able to repair the damage to their furniture, carpets and precious possessions.

Was your home covered? Have you received a cheque, or were you forced to stand aside whilst others reaped the benefit of our Great Gift?

You never can tell when you may need a cheque from JOHN BULL. Sign the forms below now.

Storm and Flood—up to £300.

JOHN BULL *has dispatched another big batch of cheques to readers who have suffered in the Great Storm. We give below the names of a few only who benefit.*

ABERAVON, GLAM.—Mr. J. Morgan, 64, Green Park Street.
BURSLEM, STAFFS.—Miss E. Phillips, 61, Station Street, Longport.
CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.—Mrs. A. B. Cox, 1, Pit.
CARDIFF.—Mr. B. H. Williams, Victoria Park P.O., 408, Cambridge Road.
COCKERMOUTH.—Mr. T. Brown, 1, Waterloo Street.
DUFFIELD, NR. DERBY.—T. E. Jenkinson, Mill House.
ELY, CARDIFF.—Mrs. M. Cribb, Bridge Hotel Cottage.
KILBURN, DERBY.—Mr. J. Bell, Church Street.
LEEKS, STAFFS.—Mr. A. Ogden, 202, Abbey Green.
MERTHYR TYDVIL.—Mr. J. Davies, 8, Tynycoed Terrace, Penydarren.
LEIGH, NR. MANCHESTER.—Mrs. M. Carroll, 21, Holden Street.
NEWTOWN, MONT.—Mrs. D. R. Manuel, 7, Dysart Terrace.
NEWTOWN, MONT.—Mrs. S. Jones, 9, Gas Street.
PAR, CORNWALL.—Mr. W. H. Williams, 25, Killhallon.
PONTYPRIDD, GLAM.—Mr. B. J. Fenn, 18, Hopkinstown Road.
STRABANE.—Mrs. M. Hart, 78, Bridge Street.
TON PENTRE, RHONDDA.—Mr. W. C. Phillips, 24, Clarence Street; Mr. C. T. Chs., 77 Parry Street; Mr. L. Lloyd, 77, Parry Street.
TAFFS WELL, NR. CARDIFF.—Mr. L. Griffiths, 4, New Houses.
BALTWHISTLE, NORTHUMBERLAND.—Mr. W. K. Wallace, Green Elders; Mr. N. Phillipson, Green Elders; Mr. G. A. Shiel, Green Elders.
GELLI, RHONDDA.—Mrs. A. Bacon, 25, Union Street; Mrs. A. Collier, 6, Ystrad Terrace; Mrs. D. Powell, 3, Ystrad Terrace.
ST. BLAZEY, CORNWALL.—Mr. J. Kitt, 41, Station Road; Mr. E. Williams, 45, Station Road; Mr. W. J. Kitt, 39, Station Road.
CANTONIAN, CARDIFF.—Mr. T. D. Morgan, 4, Rhyd-yr-Helyg, Mr. J. Marshman, 45, Oxford Street.
LONGPORT, STOKE-ON-TRENT.—Mr. G. Davies, 11, Princes Square; Mrs. E. Merricks, 59, Station Street; Mrs J. Turner, 213, Leek Road.
TREHAFOD, GLAM.—Mrs. M. A. Davies, 93, Trehafod Road. Mr. E. Williams, 99, Trehafod Road; Mr. H. Beach, 11, Ivor Street; Mr. W. Robertson, 9, Wayne Street; Mrs. H. Richards, 77, Trehafod Road; Mr. D. F. Vosper; 19, Wayne Street; Mr. F. Tilling 27, Gyfeillon Road; Mr. T. Howe, 12, River Street; Mrs. R. Rees, 6, Wayne Street; Mr. L. G. Morgan, 95, Trehafod Road; Mrs. J. Lewis, 134, Back Trehafod Road; Mrs. M. A. Edward, 32, Gyfeillon Road; Mr. D. Thomas, 4, Temple Buildings; Mrs. C. Morgan, 2, Western Street; Mrs. L. Hughes, 1, Western Street; Mr. W. Downes, 24, Gyfeillon Road.
PENTRE, RHONDDA.—Mr. C. J. G. Owens, 4, Lewis Street; Mr. H. Griffiths, 35, Treharne Street; Mr. J. Rees, 44, Baglan Street.
OMAGH, CO. TYRONE.—Mr. J. Carson, Holm View, Campsie; Mrs. E. Minnis, 2, Mountjoy Terrace.
RHONDDA.—Mr. H. Cunningham, 33, Thomas Street, Penygraig.

"John Bull" provides Fire, Storm, Flood, Sickness, Accident and Children's Benefits

CUT HERE

JOHN BULL
***Hand* this Coupon to your newsagent.**

To (name of Newsagent.) .....
Address .....
.....
Please deliver or reserve JOHN BULL for me weekly until further notice.
Signature .....
Adress .....
Date.....
PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.
J.B., 21/12/29.

CUT HERE

Post this Coupon to
"John Bull," Registration Department, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

I have sent an Order Form to my newsagent for the regular weekly delivery of JOHN BULL. Please register me as a regular reader.

.....
Reader's Signature.
Age.....
Address.....
.....
.....
Name and Address of Newsagent .....
.....
.....Date.....
Use ½d. stamp. Don't seal envelope. A certificate setting out the full benefits and conditions and certifying registration will be sent if ½d. stamped addressed envelope is enclosed for return. **PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.** J.B., 21/12/29.

IMPORTANT.

"John Bull's" Sensational Xmas Gift Your last chance before Xmas

100 NEW PRIZES TO END THE OLD YEAR
"BULLETS" 1ST PRIZE
£500
100 GOLD-LINED HAMPERS
Each Hamper Winner Receives:
£2 Cheque, Plump Surrey Fowl, Pork Sausages, Plum Pudding, Dundee Cake, Biscuits, Chocolates Crackers, Muscatels & Almonds, 50 Cigarettes, Bottle of Fine Old Port
£50
20 PRIZES OF £5
100 PRIZES OF HAMPER & £2 CHEQUE
500 PRIZES OF 2/6
10,000 'TARGET' PRIZES
£25
100 "GOLD-LINED" NEW YEAR HAMPERS
EACH CONTAINING A £2 CHEQUE

TURN XMAS LEISURE INTO CASH!

SPEND your Christmas leisure on the seasonable big *Bullets* contest now before you and start the New Year well with a substantial cheque from JOHN BULL.

£500 is offered for the best *Bullet*, with £50 and £25 for the "runners-up." Then follow 100 "gold-lined" New Year Hampers, in addition to numerous other cash awards which include twenty crisp *Bullets* "Fivers."

All you are asked to do is this. To any of the *Examples* given, add TWO, THREE or FOUR WORDS of apt and original comment. For instance, suppose you choose the *Example* GREETING THE DAWN, the added words PARLIAMENT, WITHOUT "SEEING DAYLIGHT," would form a complete *Bullet*.

Study the winners below—then start winning yourself.

1,000 XMAS PRIZES AWARDED!

FIRST PRIZE OF £500, COMPETITION 739.

Mrs. F. Dawson, 67, Oglander Road, Peckham, S.E.
Example:—PENSIONS FOR ALL
Bullet:—SOUNDS GRAND—GROUNDS, SAND.

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:

Mr. J. R. Goodwin, 22, Windsor Road, Southport.
Example:—Who Wants Prohibition?
Bullet:—The Missus—Not Masses.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25:

Mrs. M. A. Thomas, 15, Vyvyan Terrace, Bristol.
Example:—The Average Woman
Bullet:—Agreeable Bit Of Contrariness. (Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

10 OF £5 AND HAMPER:

L. BEVAN, 213, Ham Park Road, Forest Gate.
A Kind Heart—Overlooks, Because Looks Underneath.

Miss E. BROOKS, 90, Illey Road, Hammersmith.
A Deluge—Difficulties "Flooding" Thomas' Roads.

J. DAVIS, 21, George Street, Gloucester.
Man I Could Murder—"Gas-bag" Moored To Microphone.

F. B. HOPKINS, Broad Oak Farm, Leighton Buzzard.
Domestic Warfare—Over—Fighting Poverty Together.

J. McLEAN, 63, Cedar Road, Aintree.
Domestic Warfare—"Mud" *Speeds Up* Operations.

Mrs. H. PEARCE, 88, Marlborough Road, Birmingham.
Wise Pedestrian—Emulating Frog—Doesn't "Croak."

O. SNELL, Percy Cottage, Bidston, Birkenhead.
"Here's Luck!"—Often Said—Softens Head.

H. H. THRAVES, 20, Dovecote Lane, Beeston, Notts.
Far From Civilisation—Back-woods—And Back Alleys
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

W. TYLER, Marston, Nr. Devizes.
Everybody's Sorry, But—"Mr. Nobody" Usually Helps.

J. S. VOCE, 16, Stuart Road, Liverpool.
In No Hurry—Crossing—He's "Lingering" Yet.

10 OF £2 10s. AND HAMPER:

H. G. BROOKES, 19, Sycamore Road, Guildford.
The Workers—Pin-money Gives Them "Needle."

Miss F. G. COLLINS, 32, Canon, Kettering.
A Week's Work—Slacker Refused—Deserves Month.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

S. M. COLLINS, 2, Eversley Road, Didsbury.
Who Wants Prohibition?—Commission May Tell Grandchildren.

E. CRADDOCK, 5, Meath Villas, Lee Street, Harley.
Far From Civilisation—My House—Month Ago!

Mrs. A. B. EVANS, 7, Lime Walk, Willowbank, Denham, Bucks.
At The Last Moment—"Buy Father A Tie!"

J. EVERETT, Ashleigh, 65, Abbey Lane, Woodseats.
The Average Woman—"Raises" Child—And Man.

A. T. FROST, 29, Fisher's Road, Totton.
Wise Pedestrian—If He Walks Again.

Miss J. MICHAEL, Ruthven Street, Auchterarder.
Everybody's Sorry, But—Carefully Preventing Money Rattling.

W. OAKES, 48, Ashley Lane, Manchester.
No Fun—Work—No Work, Serious.

W. C. WORTHINGTON, 15, John Street, Newcastle.
Who Wants Prohibition?—Aren't We Bad Enough?

All Prize-winners have been notified and a list of 100 "Bullets" Hamper winners will be published in "Bullets" Bulletin. A list of 200 Turkey, 300 Xmas Cake, 400 Fowl, and 500 2/6 prize-winners can be seen at these offices.

Advance details for "Bullets" No. 743.
First Prize, 400 Guineas—Second Prize, £50—Third Prize, £25—2 Prizes of £10—10 Prizes of £6—10 Prizes of £3—25 Prizes of £1—30 Prizes of 10/—100 Prizes of 5/—1,750 Prizes of 2/6—8,000 "Target" Prizes.
Remember, Ramsay—Another Year—What Shall We Do When—Miners And Mine-owners—Wealth Of Affection—Like Sheep—Farcical—His Knees Knocked When—Father's Thinking—Certain—Bowing To The Inevitable—In Splints—Once In A Blue Moon—Foolish Act—Spick And Span—Under Another Name—Inhuman—Green With Envy—At The Double—Something Tells Me—Business Worries—The Fact Remains—We're Very Patient, But—Historic Occasion—Howl Of Protest—Might Be Avoided—If We're Good—Young Love—Marching Along—Thinking Big—Sonny's Dole—"Looking For A Job?"

(Closing Saturday, January 11.)

"BULLETS" RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what in the opinion of the judges in consultation with the Editor is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality.

2. Only two attempts may be written on each coupon, and a postal order must be enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of. This must be made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed & Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.

3. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

4. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Employees of Odhams Press and their families are not eligible to compete.

Examples for "Bullets" Competition No. 742

1939
GREETING THE DAWN
QUICK-CHANGE ARTIST
WE HOPE
PRINCE CHARMING
WANTED HIS MONEY'S WORTH
SAUSAGES
WORTH TAKING
NOT IN THE LIST
FEMALE OF THE SPECIES
MR. KNOW-ALL
SLUMP IN BABIES
SISTERS
WITH A STROKE OF THE PEN
NEW PROBLEM
TWO
WHAT SHE'S CRYING FOR
DEPTHS OF DEPRESSION
SURELY
MORE HONEST
A SURPLUS
BARS PROGRESS
GENERALLY ACCEPTED
WISDOM OF THE AGES
MAN WHO'S GOT SENSE
DUST OF YEARS
HAPPY
NEVER, NEVER, NEVER
END OF THE MATTER
THINGS WERE DIFFERENT WHEN
NOTWITHSTANDING
WHAT THE FINANCIER SAID

Example _____ Closing SATURDAY, Jan. 4.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(742) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 1 Coupon, send P.O. for 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Cut out each coupon separately.

Example _____ Closing SATURDAY, Jan. 4.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(742) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 2 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s.
Signed _____
Address _____

Bullets must consist of Two, Three or Four Words.

Example _____ Closing SATURDAY, Jan. 4.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(742) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 3 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. 6d.
Signed _____
Address _____

Enter your full name and address on each coupon.

Example _____ Closing SATURDAY, Jan. 4.
Bullet _____
Example _____
Bullet _____
(742) P.O. No. _____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page. With 4 Coupons, send P.O. for 2s.
Signed _____
Address _____

If you wish to send in further "Bullets" you can write them on plain paper.

Address Coupons: "Bullets" No. 742, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2 (Comp.)

SPECIAL NEWSAGENTS' PRIZES.—Cheques for £5, £2 and £1 respectively will be paid to the Newsagents from whom the winners of the three chief "Bullets" Prizes in Competition No. 742 have purchased their copies of John Bull.

The original cheque for £500 awarded to the first Prize-winner in "Bullets" No. 728 will be displayed in the window of Mr. F. D. Kendall, White Hart Street, High Wycombe.

Any reader can obtain a free copy of "Bullets" Bulletin, our new help for competitors, by forwarding halfpenny stamped addressed envelope. Sixpenny P.O. crossed and made payable to JOHN BULL brings 12 consecutive issues post paid.
Address: "Bulletin" Dept., JOHN BULL, Long Acre, W.C.2.

AVOIDING ILLNESS

"The key to the situation appears to be that people become susceptible to infection when their general powers of resistance are lowered."

Extract from Ministry of Health Report.

"No technical device or narrow specific remedy against influenza can avail apart from the sanitary environment of the community and the sound nutrition of the individual."

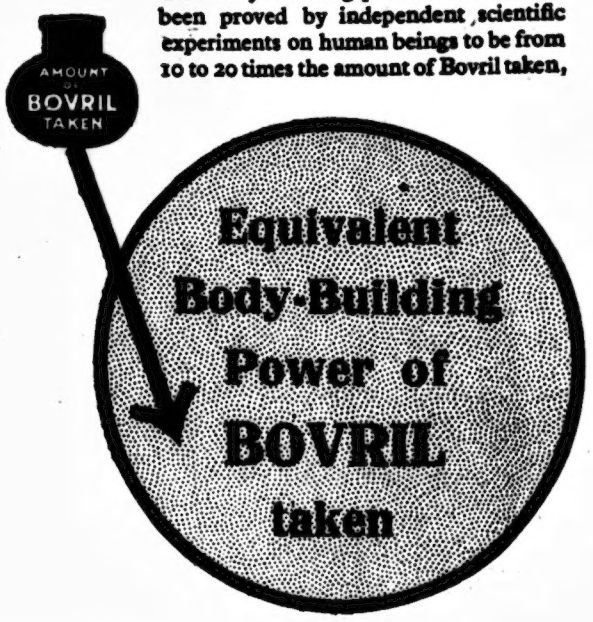
Extract from Ministry of Health Report.

The Importance of BOVRIL

The above extracts from reports by the Ministry of Health show the overwhelming importance of *nutrition* in avoiding illness. Bovril is the basis of nutrition, for Bovril combines in scientific and concentrated form the two qualities that make beef of such great dietetic value. It contains beef proteins of the highest biological (or feeding) value, together with the essential vitalizing elements of beef that promote the vigorous functioning of brain and body.

One cup of Bovril gives initial strength; its value is multiplied by taking it regularly. Make Bovril part of your daily life and build up a strong resistance to infection.

The Body-Building power of Bovril has been proved by independent scientific experiments on human beings to be from 10 to 20 times the amount of Bovril taken,



BOVRIL

THE IDEAL STIMULANT NUTRIENT

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